



# *Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey Final Report - 2007*

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*(With Provincial and District level data)*

*Department of Census and Statistics  
Ministry of Finance and Planning*

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## *Preface*

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*In the past, information on labour force characteristics, employment and unemployment etc. were collected through labour force and socio - economic surveys conducted at five yearly time intervals. However, the employment and unemployment data are required at very short intervals to monitor the programmes implemented in the employment generating policies of the government. Therefore, to satisfy this need, the Department of Census and Statistics designed a labour force survey on a quarterly basis, to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka on a continuous basis. This survey was commenced from the first quarter of 1990 and is being continued by the DCS.*

*Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes were made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data.*

*Beginning in January 2006, some significant improvements were made to the labour force survey schedule in order to fulfill the requirements of it's users and also to provide additional information for the planning purposes. This revision was made focusing on literacy, household economic activities, informal sector employment and underemployment etc. This revised version was introduced for the survey conducted in 2006 first quarter, and it will be used in future as well.*

*The field work of the survey for the year 2007 was done in all twelve months in 2007. However, in 2007, even though it was planned to conduct the labour force survey in Northern and Eastern provinces, the survey could not be conducted properly in those provinces due to prevailing conditions. So the national level estimates based on the data collected in year 2007 does not cover the Northern and Eastern provinces. Therefore, this report is based on a annual sample of 18,390 housing units, excluding Northern and Eastern provinces providing national, provincial and district level estimates with a stipulated standard errors of labour force characteristics as reported in the relevant reference periods of each 12 months of the year 2007.*

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## *Acknowledgements*

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*This "Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey, 2007" with provincial and district level data is based on the total annual sample of 18,390 housing units, excluding Northern and Eastern provinces.*

*Planning and the execution of the survey was done by the staff of the Sample Surveys Division under the supervision of Mrs. Anoma S. Jayasekara, Deputy Director and Mr. L.J.S. De Silva Wijeratna Deputy Director.*

*Field operation activities were organized by Mr. R.A.P. Kumarasinghe, Statistician of the Sample Surveys Division.*

*The computer data processing and final tabulations were done by Mrs. W.A.S.M.P. Gunasekara, Statistical Officer and Mr. M.B.M. Shiras, Statistical Assistant of the Sample Surveys Division, under the supervision of Mr. P.A. Subawickrama, Statistician using Microcomputers.*

*The sample selection programme was developed by Mr. K.M.R. Wickramasingha, System Analyst Sample Surveys Division.*

*This publication was organized and prepared by Mrs. W.A. Chandani Wijebandara, Statistician under the supervision of Mr. L.J.S. De Silva Wijeratna, Deputy Director, Sample Surveys Division. The preparation work of the report was assisted by Mrs. W.A.S.M.P. Gunasekara, Mrs. G.M.Y.D. de Silva and Mr. W.P.G. de Silva Statistical officers and Mrs. A.N. Ekanayaka, Statistical assistant.*

*The Data Processing Division, under the direction of Mrs. S.V. Nanayakkara, Director (Data Processing) and under the supervision of Mr. Migara Fernando and Mr. Wasantha Weerasiri, Senior System Analyst/Programmers, was responsible for the survey data entry and preparation of data entry and computer edits programmes.*

*Sample Survey Division implemented the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey programme, under the direction of Mr. G.Y.L. Fernando, Director (Sample Surveys).*

*District field staff of the Department who worked on the survey deserve a special word of thanks. They include District Senior Statisticians/ Statisticians and field Statistical Officers, who worked hard at the data collection stage, to make this survey a success.*

*Printing of the report was done at the Printing Division, under the supervision of Mr. W.C. Weerawansa, Senior Statistician.*

*Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to all the respondents of the survey for their valuable co-operation.*

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**Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey**  
**Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics**  
**2007**

**10 years & over population**

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (10 years & over)	15047882	7174676	7873206	1794240	13253642
Labour force in this age group	7488896	4862788	2626108	808286	6680609
Labour force participation rate	49.8	67.8	33.4	45.0	50.4
Employed population	7041874	4653067	2388807	769009	6272865
Employment rate	94.0	95.7	91.0	95.1	93.9
Unemployed population	447021	209721	237300	39277	407744
Unemployment rate	6.0	4.3	9.0	4.9	6.1
Not in labour force	7558986	2311888	5247098	985954	6573032

**15 years & over population**

Population (15 years & over)	13459252	6372572	7086680	1615546	11843706
Labour force in this age group	7472932	4853559	2619373	807807	6665124
Labour force participation rate	55.5	76.2	37.0	50.0	56.3
Employed population	7026733	4643931	2382801	768530	6258202
Employment rate	94.0	95.7	91.0	95.1	93.9
Unemployed population	446199	209627	236572	39277	406922
Unemployment rate	6.0	4.3	9.0	4.9	6.1
Not in labour force	5986320	1519013	4467307	807738	5178582

**20 years & over population**

Population (20 years & over)	11921097	5600065	6321032	1434351	10486746
Labour force in this age group	7150034	4640194	2509840	770881	6379152
Labour force participation rate	60.0	82.9	39.7	53.7	60.8
Employed population	6773691	4472327	2301364	738290	6035401
Employment rate	94.7	96.4	91.7	95.8	94.6
Unemployed population	376343	167866	208476	32592	343751
Unemployment rate	5.3	3.6	8.3	4.2	5.4
Not in labour force	4771064	959872	3811192	663469	4107594

***Selected Labour Force indicators (Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces)  
( 2000 - 2007 )***

	Year							
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Labour force participation rate</b>								
<i>by sex</i>								
Both sexes	50.3	48.8	50.3	49.7	49.6	49.3	51.2	49.8
Male	67.2	66.2	67.9	67.5	67.2	67.3	68.1	67.8
Female	33.9	31.9	33.6	32.6	33.0	32.6	35.7	33.4
<i>by residential sector</i>								
Total	50.3	48.8	50.3	49.7	49.6	49.3	51.2	49.8
Urban	44.9	44.2	46.0	45.1	45.6	46.2	45.3	45.0
Rural	51.2	49.6	50.9	50.3	50.3	49.7	52.1	50.4
<b>Unemployment rate</b>								
<i>by sex</i>								
Both sexes	7.6	7.9	8.8	8.1	8.1	7.2	6.5	6.0
Male	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.0	5.3	4.7	4.3
Female	11.1	11.5	12.9	12.3	12.1	10.7	9.7	9.0
<i>by selected age groups(yr)</i>								
20 - 29	17.4	18.4	20.1	19.1	18.6	16.0	15.9	15.0
20 - 24	23.0	24.4	27.0	25.8	25.2	22.4	21.0	21.1
25 - 29	10.9	11.3	11.6	11.4	11.1	9.4	11.0	9.4
<i>by selected educational levels</i>								
G.C.E.(A/L) & above								
Both sexes	14.9	15.3	16.8	16.0	15.7	12.2	11.6	11.8
Male	8.8	10.1	10.8	10.1	9.6	7.9	6.9	6.6
Female	21.5	21.5	23.0	22.4	22.5	17.1	16.8	17.5
<b>Employed population</b>								
<i>by sex</i>								
Both sexes	6310247	6235588	6519415	6609466	6704006	6788119	7105322	7041874
Male	4241546	4248877	4395164	4496136	4512082	4546397	4610643	4653067
Female	2068701	1986711	2124250	2113330	2191924	2241722	2494679	2388807
<i>by industry (percentage)</i>								
Total	6310247	6235588	6519415	6609466	6704006	6788119	7105322	7041874
%	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)
Agriculture	2274153	2033343	2247602	2223691	2215282	2059293	2287268	2202098
%	(36.0)	(32.6)	(34.5)	(33.6)	(33.0)	(30.3)	(32.2)	(31.3)
Industry	1490795	1491408	1459194	1539035	1663383	1787274	1889953	1873857
%	(23.6)	(23.9)	(22.4)	(23.3)	(24.8)	(26.3)	(26.6)	(26.6)
Services	2545299	2710837	2812619	2846740	2825341	2941552	2928101	2965919
%	(40.3)	(43.5)	(43.1)	(43.1)	(42.1)	(43.3)	(41.2)	(42.1)
<i>by no. of hours worked per week (percentage)</i>								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 •	7.2	4.3	5.6	7.3	5.3	4.9	6.7	6.5
1 - 9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.5
10 - 39	32.7	28.2	32.0	32.9	28.4	27.9	28.6	28.3
40+	58.2	66.1	60.9	58.0	64.7	65.7	62.8	63.7

• Has a job but not at work during the reference week

Note: However it is to be noted that the difference between corresponding figures in any given two quarters may not necessarily be statistically significant.

**Selected Labour Force indicators**  
( 2000 - 2007 )

	Year							
	2000	2001	2002	2003*	2004**	2005***	2006 #	2007#
<b>Labour force participation rate</b>								
<i>by sex</i>								
Both sexes	50.3	48.8	50.3	48.9	48.6	48.3	51.2	49.8
Male	67.2	66.2	67.9	67.2	66.7	67.1	68.1	67.8
Female	33.9	31.9	33.6	31.4	31.5	30.9	35.7	33.4
<i>by residential sector</i>								
Total	50.3	48.8	50.3	48.9	48.6	48.3	51.2	49.8
Urban	44.9	44.2	46.0	44.4	44.9	45.5	45.3	45.0
Rural	51.2	49.6	50.9	49.6	49.2	48.7	52.1	50.4
<b>Unemployment rate</b>								
<i>by sex</i>								
Both sexes	7.6	7.9	8.8	8.4	8.3	7.7	6.5	6.0
Male	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.0	5.5	4.7	4.3
Female	11.1	11.5	12.9	13.2	12.8	11.9	9.7	9.0
<i>by selected age groups(yr)</i>								
20 - 29	17.4	18.4	20.1	19.4	19.2	17.2	15.9	15.0
20 - 24	23.0	24.4	27.0	26.4	25.9	24.6	21.0	21.1
25 - 29	10.9	11.3	11.6	11.4	11.4	9.5	11.0	9.4
<i>by selected educational levels</i>								
G.C.E.(A/L) & above								
Both sexes	14.9	15.3	16.8	16.5	16.8	13.8	11.6	11.8
Male	8.8	10.1	10.8	10.4	10.5	8.9	6.9	6.6
Female	21.5	21.5	23.0	23.3	23.8	19.1	16.8	17.5
<b>Employed population</b>								
<i>by sex</i>								
Both sexes	6310247	6235588	6519415	7012755	7440226	7518007	7105322	7041874
Male	4241546	4248877	4395164	4833483	5087861	5134765	4610643	4653067
Female	2068701	1986711	2124250	2179272	2352365	2383241	2494679	2388807
<i>by industry (percentage)</i>								
Total	6310247	6235588	6519415	7012755	7394029	7518007	7105322	7041874
%	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)
Agriculture	2274153	2033343	2247602	2384397	2474725	2306039	2287268	2202098
%	(36.0)	(32.6)	(34.5)	(34.0)	(33.5)	(30.7)	(32.2)	(31.3)
Industry	1490795	1491408	1459194	1611493	1781447	1928014	1889953	1873857
%	(23.6)	(23.9)	(22.4)	(23.0)	(24.1)	(25.6)	(26.6)	(26.6)
Services	2545299	2710837	2812619	3016866	3137857	3283954	2928101	2965919
%	(40.3)	(43.5)	(43.1)	(43.0)	(42.4)	(43.7)	(41.2)	(42.1)
<i>by no. of hours worked per week (percentage)</i>								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 •	7.2	4.3	5.6	7.5	5.2	4.7	6.7	6.5
1 - 9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.9	1.5
10 - 39	32.7	28.2	32.0	32.6	28.7	27.6	28.6	28.3
40+	58.2	66.1	60.9	58.1	64.5	66.2	62.8	63.7

• Has a job but not at work during the reference week

\*Excluding Northern province

\*\*\*All the districts are included

\*\* Excluding Mullativu & Kilinochchi districts

# Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

(Before 2003, estimates excluded both Northern & Eastern provinces)

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# CHAPTER 1 - Introduction

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## 1.1 General background

In the past, information on labour force characteristics, employment, and unemployment etc. were collected through the labour force and socio-economic surveys conducted at five year time intervals. However, the employment and unemployment data are required at very short intervals to monitor the progress of the employment generating policies of the government. Therefore to satisfy this need, the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) designed a Labour Force Survey (LFS) as a quarterly basis to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka on a continuous basis. This survey was commenced from the first quarter 1990 with USAID technical assistance and is being continued by the DCS.

Since 1990, DCS was able to continue this survey quarterly, except 2001 second quarter. The quarterly survey for the second quarter 2001 was not conducted due to heavy work involved in the conduct of the Census of Population and Housing in 2001.

Again, in 2005 due to Tsunami, LFS was not implemented in 2005 on quarterly basis as scheduled. Among the reasons, first the staff of DCS were involved the activities of "Census of Tsunami", which was conducted in February 2005 to provide the information on the impact of Tsunami. Secondly, sample frame which is used for Household survey program had to be updated with the results of the "Listing operation" conducted in Tsunami affected districts. Because of these factors, it was decided to conduct labour force survey in 2005 August as a special survey at one time point, not covering any quarters of the year.

Therefore, except in these two time periods, DCS was able to continue this task successfully since 1990. The information collected from LFS serve as the macro-economic indicators for monitoring the current performance of the economy and they also serve to evaluate government policies and programs, and therefore, LFS plays an important role focusing several perspectives.

## 1.2 Coverage of the survey

This quarterly labour force survey was conducted throughout the island during the first quarter of 1990. Thereafter, till year 2003 North and Eastern provinces were not covered from the survey due to the prevailed situation in that areas. In 2003, DCS was able to conduct the survey in Eastern province, and in 2004 and year 2005, the survey covered all 25 districts in the island. In year 2006, though it was planned to cover whole island the survey was not conducted in Northern & Eastern provinces completely. Further completed schedules received from those districts were not sufficient to give reliable estimates. Therefore annual estimates of 2006 does not include Northern & Eastern provinces.

The field work of the survey for the year 2007 was done in all twelve months in 2007. However, in 2007, even though it was planned to conduct the labour force survey in Northern and Eastern provinces, the survey could not be conducted properly in those provinces due to prevailing conditions. In 2007 Batticaloa, Ampara & Jaffna district started data collections as per scheduled time table but due to the special enumeration carried out in those areas, the survey was disturbed. Again in 4th quarter the survey was conducted in Batticaloa, Ampara & Trincomalee districts. Further the schedules from those areas were not received on time and full sample was not covered. Therefore completed number of questionnaire is not sufficient to provide reliable estimates for Northern & Eastern provinces so the national level estimates based on the data collected in year 2007 does not cover the Northern and Eastern provinces. Therefore, this report is based on a annual sample of 18,390 housing units, excluding Northern and Eastern provinces providing national, provincial and district level estimates with a stipulated standard errors of labour force characteristics as reported in the relevant reference periods of each 12 months of the year 2007.

This survey covered persons living in housing units only and, it excludes the institutional population.

## 1.3 Field Work

The field work of the survey for the year 2007 was done in all 12 months from January to December 2007.

Listing operation was also staggered over a period of 12 months starting from November 2006 to October 2007. For each primary sampling unit, updating was done, about two months prior to the scheduled interviewing. As such, for example, the census blocks which were surveyed in April, were updated in February.

Statistical officers of the DCS were involved in the listing operation prior to the survey and also in the survey data collection operation. Each statistical officer is responsible for doing all statistical activities in a Divisional Secretariat division to which she/he is attached.

These officers were given a through training before they were entrusted with the survey operations. In each district, there is an officer who is incharge of the statistical activities in the district.

#### 1.4 Survey Schedule

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes have been made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data.

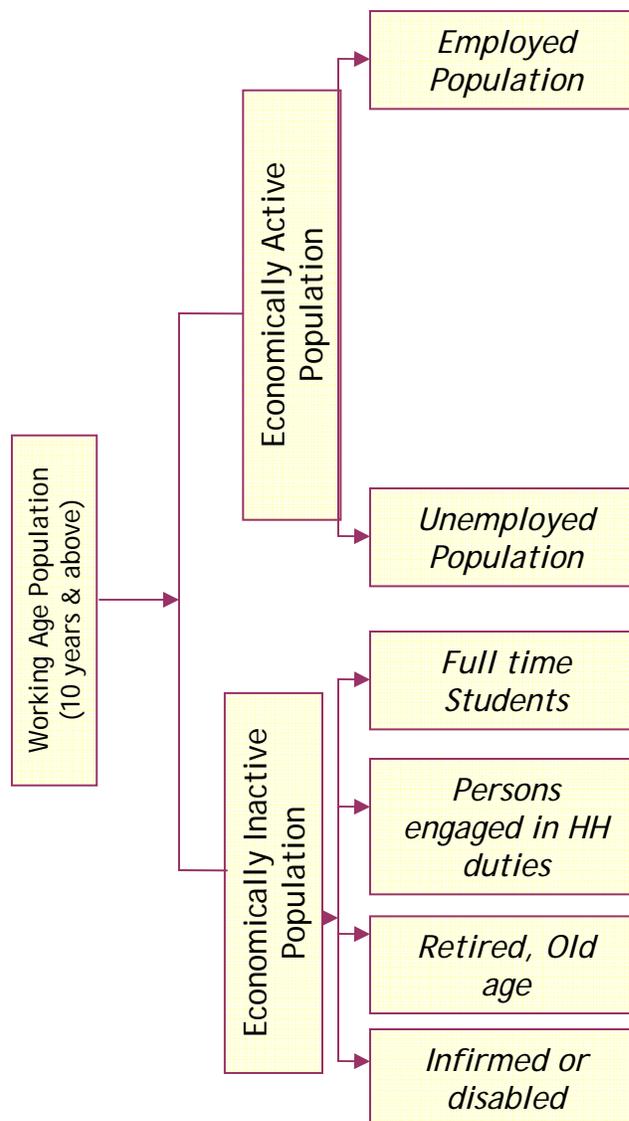
Beginning in January 2006, some significant improvements<sup>(1)</sup> were made to the labour force survey schedule in order to fulfill the requirements of it's users and also to provide additional information for the planning purposes. This was done after carefully reviewing of the LFS schedule with the technical assistance provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Adviser. The revision was made focusing on literacy, household economic activities, informal sector employment and underemployment etc.

This revised version was introduced for the survey conducted in 2006 first quarter, and it will be used in future as well.

#### 1.5 Field supervision

Senior officers of the DCS visited the district to check whether enumerators have done their work properly. These supervising officers were expected to submit their reports to the heads of the relevant divisions based on their observations.

**Diagram 1 : Components of Economically active and Economically Inactive Population**



Note: (1) See the attached questionnaire

## CHAPTER 2 - Survey Methodology

### 2.1 Sampling plan and the sampling frame

A two stage stratified sampling procedure was adopted to select a sample of 22,500 housing units to be enumerated in the survey. The master sampling frame prepared for 2001 - Census of Population and Housing was used as the sampling frame for the selection of sample for the labour force survey 2007.

### 2.2 Sample size

The quarterly survey was conducted since 1990 using a sample of 2,000 housing units per quarter in areas other than North and East, and the sample size was increased to 4,000 housing units per quarter in 1996 and continued thereafter. However, in 1992 and 1997, an annual sample of 20,000 housing units was selected to give reliable estimates of district level. In 2004 again 20,000 housing units were selected for the survey. However, in order to provide district level estimates precisely, it was decided to use 20,000 - 25,000 housing units as the annual sample. As such, in 2007, the annual sample of 22,500 housing units were selected.

### 2.3 Sample Allocation

Allocation of 2,250 Primary Sampling Units (PSU's) for the districts and sectors were done using the Neymann Allocation procedure. In other words, the allocation of PSU's to strata was disproportionate, designed to produce estimates of acceptable reliability for each area for which separate estimates were needed. Then The district sample was equally distributed among the 12 monthly rounds. Table 1 gives the sample distributions by district for year 2007.

Table 1: Sample allocation by district - 2007

District	Housing Units	District	Housing Units
<b>Total</b>	22,500	Mullaitivu	380
Colombo	2,150	Kilinochchi	390
Gampaha	1,920	Batticaloa	550
Kalutara	1,210	Ampara	900
Kandy	1,400	Trincomalee	390
Matale	610	Kurunegala	1,680
Nuwara Eliya	600	Puttalam	840
Galle	1,200	Anuradhapura	960
Matara	960	Polonnaruwa	500
Hambantota	840	Badulla	860
Jaffna	720	Moneragala	550
Mannar	390	Ratnapura	1,160
Vavuniya	390	Kegalle	950

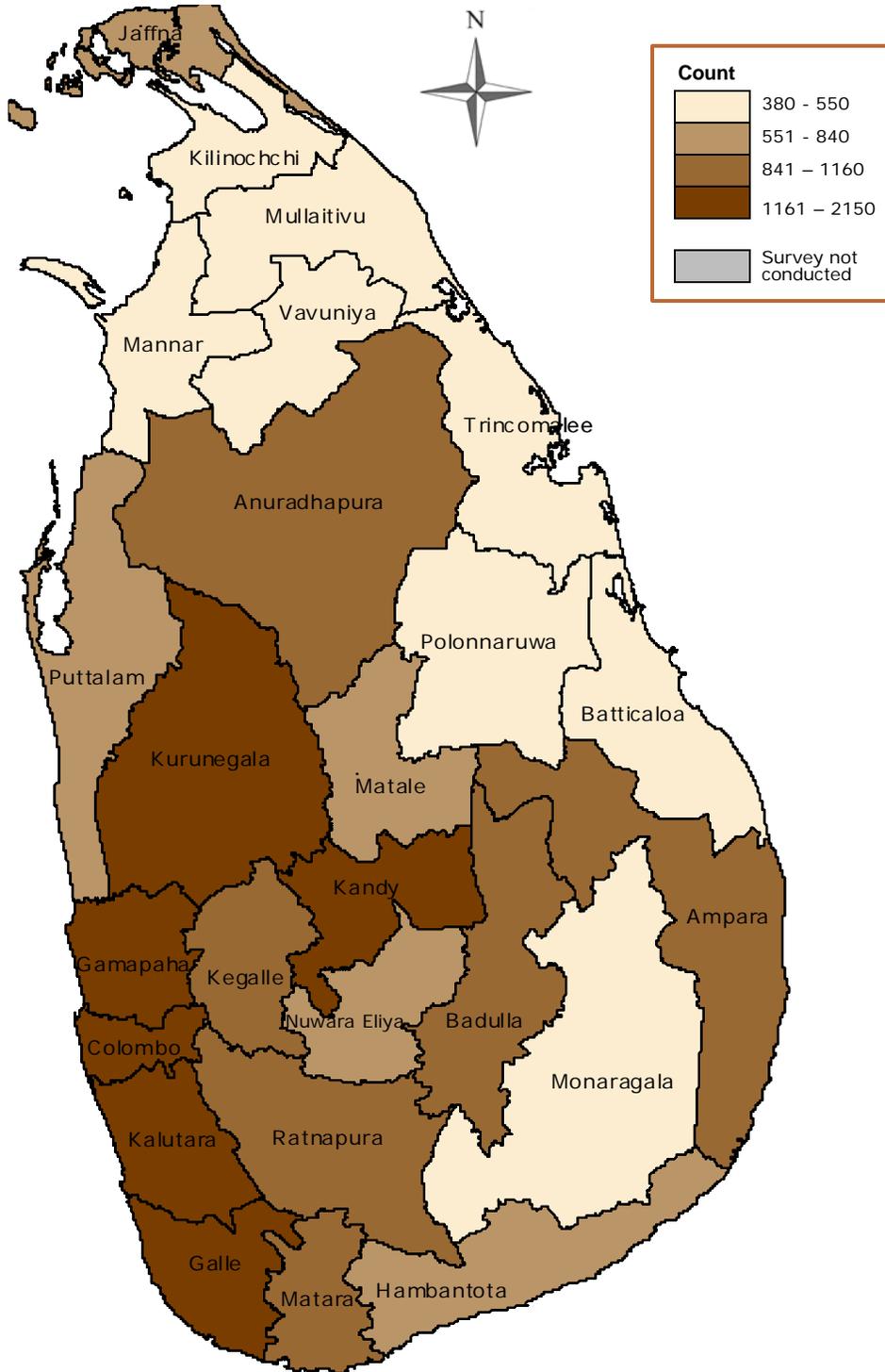
### 2.4 Selection of Primary Sampling Units (PSU)

Primary sampling units are the **census blocks** prepared for the Census of Population and Housing - 2001. The sample frame, which is a collection of all census blocks in the domain, was used for the selection of primary sampling units. A sample of 2,250 primary sampling units was selected from the sampling frame for the 2007 labour force survey.

### 2.5 Selection of Secondary Sampling Units (SSU)

Secondary Sampling Units are the **housing units** in the selected 2,250 primary sampling units (census blocks). From each primary sampling unit 10 housing units (SSU) were selected for the survey.

*Map (1) : Sample Allocation by Districts - 2007*



## 2.6

### Estimation procedure

Let  $\hat{X}_{jk}$  be the estimate of any given characteristic for  $j^{\text{th}}$  district for the  $k^{\text{th}}$  month.

This could be given by,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{X}_{jk} &= \frac{1}{m_{jk(u)}} \sum_{h(u)=1}^{m_{jk(u)}} \frac{1}{P_{h(u)}} \frac{N_{h(u)}}{n_{h(u)}} \sum_{i(u)=1}^{n_{h(u)}} X_{hi(u)} \\ &+ \frac{1}{m_{jk(r)}} \sum_{h(r)=1}^{m_{jk(r)}} \frac{1}{P_{h(r)}} \frac{N_{h(r)}}{n_{h(r)}} \sum_{i(r)=1}^{n_{h(r)}} X_{hi(r)} \\ &+ \frac{1}{m_{jk(e)}} \sum_{h(e)=1}^{m_{jk(e)}} \frac{1}{P_{h(e)}} \frac{N_{h(e)}}{n_{h(e)}} \sum_{i(e)=1}^{n_{h(e)}} X_{hi(e)}\end{aligned}$$

Where

$m_{jk(u)}$  = Number of census blocks selected from the urban sector of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  district for the  $k^{\text{th}}$  survey month.

$P_{h(u)}$  = Selection probability of the  $h^{\text{th}}$  census block in the urban sector.

$$P_{h(u)} = \frac{S_{jh(u)}}{\sum_{h=1}^{M_{jh(u)}} S_{jh(u)}}$$

$S_{jh(u)}$  = Measure of size (number of housing units) of the  $h^{\text{th}}$  census block in the urban sector of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  district.

$M_{jh(u)}$  = Total number of census blocks in urban sector of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  district.

$N_{h(u)}$  = Total number of housing units listed in the  $h^{\text{th}}$  census block in the urban sector.

$n_{h(u)}$  = Number of housing units selected from the  $h^{\text{th}}$  census block in the urban sector.

$X_{hi(u)}$  = The observed value for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  sample household in the  $h^{\text{th}}$  census block in the urban sector.

$m_{jk(r)}$ ,  $P_{h(r)}$ ,  $S_{jh(r)}$ ,  $M_{jh(r)}$ ,  $N_{h(r)}$ ,  $n_{h(r)}$ , and  $X_{hi(r)}$  are corresponding terms for the rural sector and  $m_{jk(e)}$ ,  $P_{h(e)}$ ,  $S_{jh(e)}$ ,  $M_{jh(e)}$ ,  $N_{h(e)}$ ,  $n_{h(e)}$ , and  $X_{hi(e)}$  are corresponding terms for the estate sector. The estimate for the total value of a characteristic for the country for month k,

$$\hat{X}_k = \sum_{j=1}^{17} \hat{X}_{jk} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

The estimate for the total value of a characteristic for the  $j^{\text{th}}$  district, based on all 12 rounds.

$$\hat{X}_j = \frac{1}{12} \sum_{k=1}^{12} \hat{X}_{jk} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

The total estimate for the total value of a characteristic for the urban sector for the country, based on all 12 rounds.

$$\hat{X}_u = \frac{1}{12} \sum_{k=1}^{12} \sum_{j=1}^{17} \hat{X}_{jk(u)} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Where

$$\hat{X}_{jk(u)} = \frac{1}{m_{jk(u)}} \sum_{h(u)=1}^{m_{jk(u)}} \frac{1}{P_{h(u)}} \frac{N_{h(u)}}{n_{h(u)}} \sum_{i(u)=1}^{n_{h(u)}} X_{hi(u)}$$

Similarly  $\hat{X}_r$  and  $\hat{X}_e$  Rural and Estate sector estimates for the country can be obtained.

## 2.7 Adjustment for unit non-response

The occurrence of unit non-response was determined by examining the final result code recorded under control data section of the schedule. Based on the final result codes the households were grouped into the following categories, which were used as a basis for adjusting for the unit non-response.

Category and description	Result code
1. Schedule completed	1
2. Housing unit demolished or vacant	6
3. Unable to complete schedule, refusal, temporarily away etc.	2,3,4,5,9

### *Category 1 and 2*

These were considered as fully accounted for as a schedule was completed to the extent required by the situation at the time of interview and therefore no adjustment was necessary.

### *Category 3*

This is incomplete therefore, a non-response adjustment was made for this category. The assumption made here for the adjustment of non-response was the proportion of households in category 3 is the same as the corresponding proportion for sample households in category 1. This assumption is applied on a block-by-block basis separately for urban, rural and estate sectors. The block weight before adjusting for unit non-response was

$$W'_h = \frac{1}{m_{jk}} \sum_{h=1}^{m_{jk}} \frac{1}{P_h} \frac{N_h}{n_h}$$

Where

$N_h$  = Total number of housing units listed in block h.

$n_h$  = Number of housing units selected in block h.

The revised weight should take the form

$$W_h = W'_h \left( \frac{n_h^1 - n_{h2}}{n_h} \right)$$

Where

$n_{h1}$  = Number of sample households in category 1.

$n_{h2}$  = Number of sample households in category 2.

$n_h^1$  = Total number of households in all categories (category 1, 2 and 3) =  $(n_h)$

# CHAPTER 3 - Economically Active/Inactive Population

## 3.1 Distribution of economically active population

The “economically active population “ is defined broadly as comprising of all persons above a specific age (10 years and above) of either sex who furnish the supply of labour for the production of economic goods and services during a specified time reference period. The economically active population or the ‘labour force’ is usually recognized as the sum of ‘employed’ and ‘unemployed’ populations.

In 2007, it is estimated that, of the economically active population of 7.5 million, 4.9 million (65%) were males and 2.6 million (35%) were females.

**Table 2: Working age population by economically active or inactive by sex - 2007**

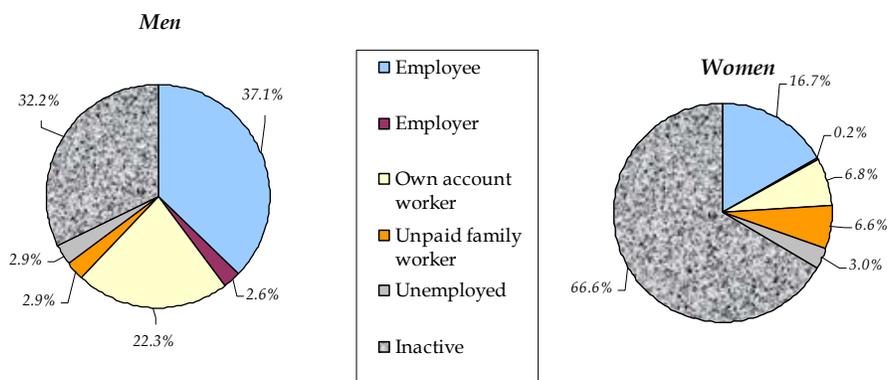
Sex	Economically active population		Economically inactive population	
	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7488896	100.0	7558986	100.0
Male	4862788	64.9	2311888	30.6
Female	2626108	35.1	5247098	69.4

**Table 3 : Economically active population by sex and sector - 2007**

Sex	Total		Sector			
			Urban		Rural	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
<b>Total</b>	7488896	100.0	808286	100.0	6680609	100.0
Male	4862788	64.9	555003	68.7	4307785	64.5
Female	2626108	35.1	253283	31.3	2372825	35.5

**Figure 2: Economic position by sex - 2007**

10 & above population (Men)      10 & above population (Women)



**Figure 1 : Distribution of Economically active/inactive population - 2007**

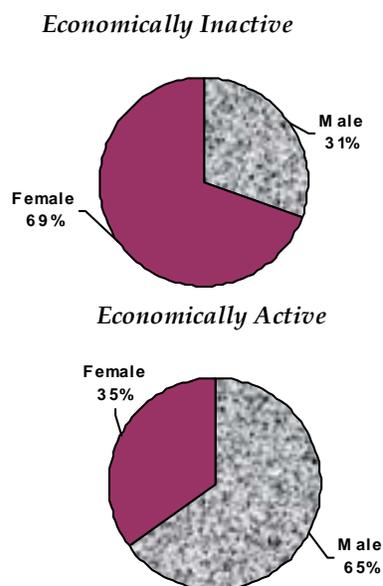


Figure 2 Illustrates the distribution of working age population by sex and by economic positions. This clearly shows that 32.2 percent of males in working age population are in inactive group while it is 66.6 percent for females. There is no difference between male & female unemployment composition, which are about 3 percent of each working age populations. 6.6 percent of female working age population are unpaid family workers and it is only 2.9 percent for males.

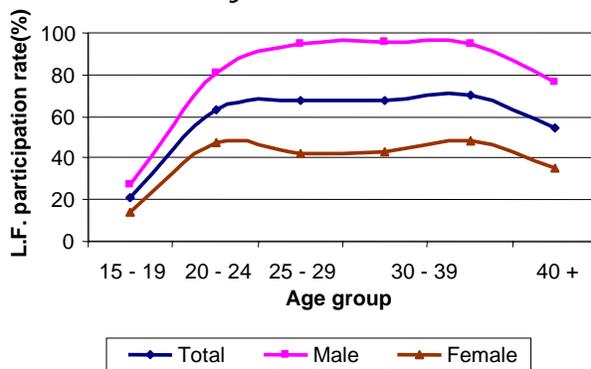
### 3.2 Economically active population by district

**Table 4 : Percentage distribution of economically active population by sex & district - 2007**

District	Economically active population		
	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Total	100.0	64.9	35.1
Colombo	100.0	66.9	33.1
Gampaha	100.0	68.3	31.7
Kalutara	100.0	67.6	32.4
Kandy	100.0	67.8	32.2
Matale	100.0	63.5	36.5
Nuwara Eliya	100.0	54.3	45.7
Galle	100.0	66.0	34.0
Matara	100.0	65.9	34.1
Hambantota	100.0	65.1	34.9
Kurunegala	100.0	63.6	36.4
Puttalam	100.0	70.2	29.8
Anuradhapura	100.0	58.6	41.4
Polonnaruwa	100.0	69.2	30.8
Badulla	100.0	57.9	42.1
Moneragala	100.0	61.5	38.5
Ratnapura	100.0	64.8	35.2
Kegalle	100.0	64.1	35.9

As table 4 illustrates, Nuwara Eliya district shows the highest female percentage contribution, i.e 46 percent to the economically active population, followed by Badulla district and Anuradhapura district showing 42 percent and 41 percent. This also indicates that, Puttalam district shows the highest male contribution to the economically active population followed by Polonnaruwa 69 percent and Gampaha 68 percent.

**Figure 3 : Labour Force participation rates by sex - 2007**



### 3.3 Labour Force Participation rates

This is defined as the percentage of the “economically active population” or the “labour force” to the working age population. Following table shows the participation rates for age groups by sex.

**Table 5 : Labour Force participation rates by sex and sector - 2007**

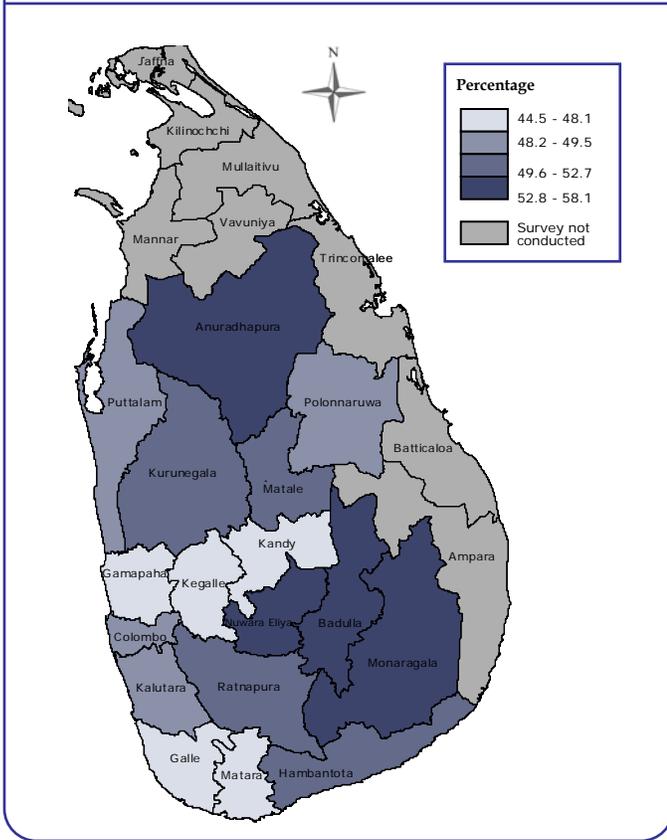
Sector	Age group	Labour force participation rate		
		Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	Total	49.8	67.8	33.4
	10 - 14	1.0	1.2	*
	15 - 19	21.0	27.6	14.3
	20 - 24	63.2	80.6	47.3
	25 - 29	67.3	95.1	42.4
	30 - 39	68.7	95.4	45.5
	40 +	54.4	76.0	35.4
<b>Urban</b>	Total	45.0	65.5	26.7
	10 - 14	*	*	*
	15 - 19	20.4	26.3	14.2
	20 - 24	59.0	73.0	47.6
	25 - 29	65.6	96.5	38.1
	30 - 39	62.2	95.5	33.5
	40 +	46.4	71.0	25.2
<b>Rural</b>	Total	50.4	68.1	34.3
	10 - 14	1.1	1.2	*
	15 - 19	21.1	27.8	14.3
	20 - 24	63.8	81.5	47.2
	25 - 29	67.5	94.8	43.0
	30 - 39	69.7	95.4	47.2
	40 +	55.5	76.7	36.7

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

As can be seen from table 5, male participation rate is around 68 percent, and female participation rate is around 33 percent.

When comparing the labour force participation rates among age groups, it is shown that the activity rate increases up to a point as the age group advances, and declines thereafter. This peak age group is 30-39 years at island level. It is also shown that males in the age group of (30 - 39) yrs shows the highest labour force participation rate (95.4%) while in the age group of (20 - 24) yrs show the highest participation rate 47.3 percent among females. Females who are in the rural sector have shown high participation rates than as that of females in urban sector .

Map (2) :Labour force participation rates by district - 2007



3.4 Labour force participation rates by district

Table 6 : Labour force participation rate by district & sex - 2007

District	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Total	49.8	67.8	33.4
Colombo	49.3	68.7	31.4
Gampaha	45.7	65.7	27.5
Kalutara	49.2	68.8	30.9
Kandy	44.5	63.9	27.2
Matale	49.9	68.4	33.9
Nuwara Eliya	57.6	67.8	48.9
Galle	45.9	63.9	29.7
Matara	45.7	64.5	29.3
Hambantota	51.7	68.8	35.3
Kurunegala	52.0	69.4	36.2
Puttalam	49.5	72.8	28.3
Anuradhapura	58.1	72.5	45.4
Polonnaruwa	49.5	71.2	29.4
Badulla	54.7	67.6	43.4
Moneragala	56.6	71.8	42.3
Ratnapura	52.7	68.7	36.9
Kegalle	48.1	65.3	32.7

Labour force participation rate by districts are given in table 6 above. Anuradhapura district has the highest participation rate (58.1%) and, Kandy district has the lowest (44.5%). When looking at the female participation rates, Nuwara Eliya district shows highest participation rate. Further Anuradhapura (45.4%) , Badulla (43.4%) and Moneragala (42.3%) district show also comparatively higher female participation rates. It can be noticed from the survey results that agricultural sector employment is highly concentrated in these districts. Also it reveals that male participation rates are nearly double as that of females in all the districts, other than the districts with higher female participation rates. Also it is, important to notice that Kandy shows the lowest female participation rate (27.2%) among districts.

Figure 4: Annual Labour Force Participation rates 1993 - 2007 (Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces)

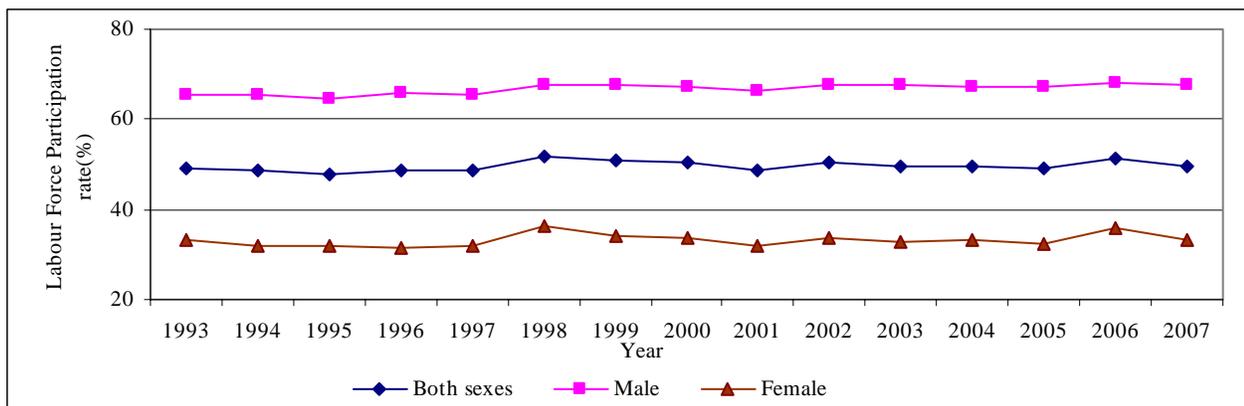


Figure 4 depicts that there hasn't been contrast differences of labour force participation rates over the previous years.

### 3.5 The “economically inactive” Population

The persons mainly engaged in studies, household duties, retired or old, disabled persons etc. are defined as ‘Economically Inactive Population’.

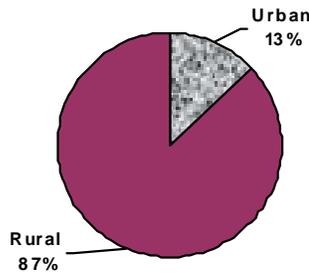
The survey results showed that, 7.6 million (50.2 %) persons of working age population were in the economically inactive group, comprising 31 percent of males and 69 percent of females.

**Table 7 : Economically Inactive Population by Sex and Sector - 2007**

Sector	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	7558986	100.0	2311888	30.6	5247098	69.4
Urban	985954	100.0	291899	29.6	694055	70.4
Rural	6573032	100.0	2019989	30.7	4553044	69.3

Table 7 also reveals that, the number of inactive females are higher than as that of males in both sectors. About the 87 percent of total economically inactive persons are in the rural sector, while the balance of 13 percent are in the urban sector. (Figure 5)

**Figure 5: Economically Inactive population by sector - 2007**



**Table 8 : Percentage distribution of economically Inactive population by age and sex - 2007**

Age group	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
10 - 14	20.8	34.3	14.9
15 - 19	16.1	24.2	12.5
20 - 24	6.7	5.5	7.2
25 - 29	6.0	1.4	8.1
30 - 34	5.3	1.1	7.2
35 - 39	5.1	1.3	6.8
40 - 44	4.6	1.2	6.1
45 - 49	4.5	1.2	6.0
50 - 54	5.3	2.1	6.7
55 - 59	5.2	3.9	5.8
60 - 64	5.4	5.5	5.4
65+	14.9	18.2	13.4

Table 8 shows the distribution of inactive population by age group and sex. This show that inactive concentration is higher in young and older age groups while middle age groups show lower inactive percentages. Further, female inactive percentages are higher than those for male in all age groups except for 10 - 19 and 65+ age groups

**Figure 6 : Percentage distribution of economically active & Economically inactive population by age group -2007**

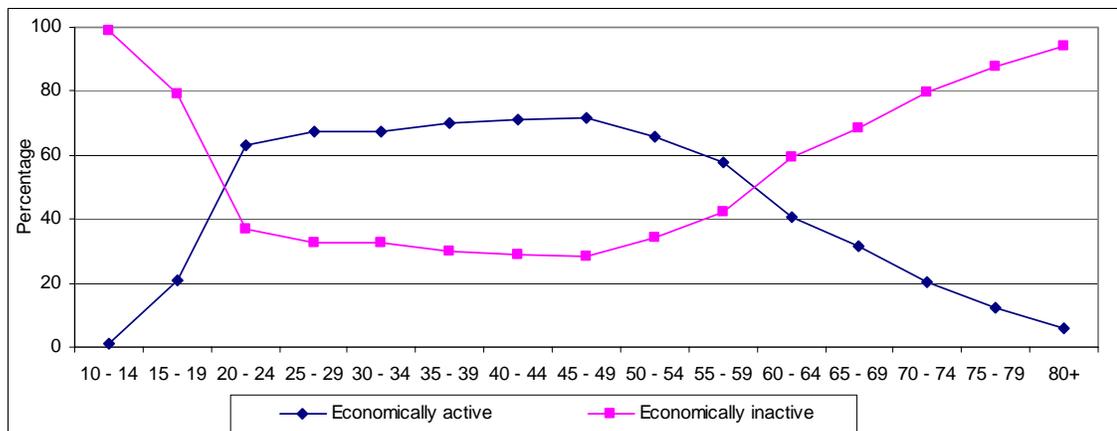


Figure 6 reveals that percentage of economically inactive persons is decreasing from age groups 10 up to age twenties and remains around 30 percent further it is increasing from age fifties. Though percentage of inactive population is increasing rapidly in older age groups it doesn't reach 100 percent which means that, there are some persons, engage in economic activities even in higher age groups (80+).

Table 9 : Reasons for economically inactive by sex - 2007

Reason/ Activity Status	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
<b>All Economically inactive</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Retired/ Old age	16.1	22.2	13.3
Physically illness/ Disabled	5.5	9.5	3.7
Reasons for not seeking work	1.4	1.7	1.1
Engaged in housework	37.4	3.7	52.3
Engaged in studies	36.7	58.7	27.0
Other	3.0	4.0	2.6

Figure 8: Reasons for economically inactive by sex - 2007

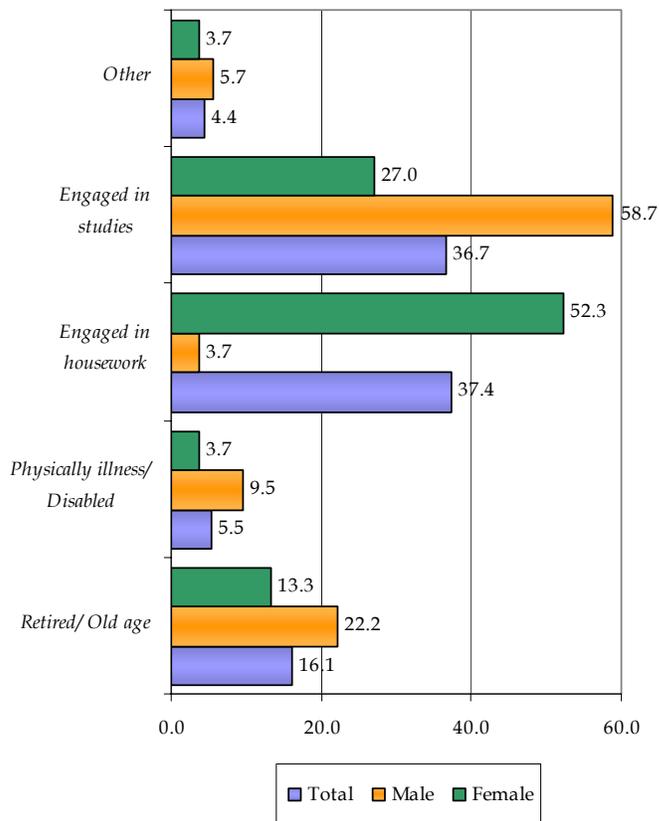


Figure 7 : Reasons for economically inactive - Both Sexes - 2007

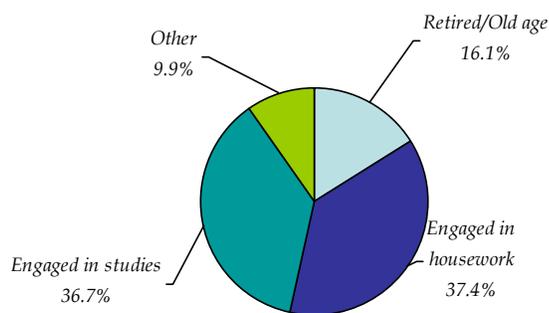


Figure 7 clearly depicts that, both males and females engage in studies, while more females engage in housework.

When the inactive population by reason is examined, (table 9 and figure 7) it was found that more than 70 percent of the inactive population mainly engaged in studies or household activities. About 52 percent of economic inactive women had declared, engage in housework as reason for being inactive and it is 3.7 percent for male. This gives some sense for the reasons, that is why some women find it difficult to enter the labour market. Also the results reveals that 58.7 percent of economically inactive males engage in studies where as it is 27 percent for females.

# CHAPTER 4 - Employment

## 4.1 Employment by major Industry group

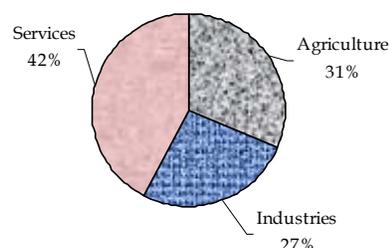
The survey results revealed that, there were 7.0 million persons being employed during the year 2007. Of these employed persons, about 4.6 million ( 66% ) were males and 2.4 million (34%) were females .

As shown in figure 9, of the total employed population, 42 percent was reported under 'Services' sector employment, while this share is 27 percent for the 'Industries' sector . It is also estimated that, 31 percent of the employed persons were engaged in the 'Agriculture' sector.

**Table 10 : Percentage distribution of employed population by major industry group : 1992-2007**

Year	Total employed		Major industry group					
			Agriculture		Industries		Services	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1992	4924130	100.0	2078560	42.2	991492	20.1	1854078	37.7
1993	5201904	100.0	2159187	41.5	1024524	19.7	2018193	38.8
1994	5281279	100.0	2084733	39.5	1046282	19.8	2150265	40.7
1995	5357120	100.0	1966793	36.7	1188271	22.2	2202056	41.1
1996	5536216	100.0	2071764	37.4	1217977	22.0	2246475	40.6
1997	5607868	100.0	2031902	36.2	1354952	24.2	2221014	39.6
1998	6049388	100.0	2378572	39.3	1325735	21.9	2345081	38.8
1999	6082449	100.0	2208066	36.3	1330134	21.9	2544249	41.8
2000	6310247	100.0	2274153	36.0	1490795	23.6	2545299	40.3
2001	6235588	100.0	2033343	32.6	1491408	23.9	2710837	43.5
2002	6519415	100.0	2247602	34.5	1459194	22.4	2812619	43.1
2003	6609466	100.0	2223691	33.6	1539035	23.3	2846740	43.1
2004	6704006	100.0	2215282	33.0	1663383	24.8	2825341	42.1
2005	6788119	100.0	2059293	30.3	1787274	26.3	2941552	43.3
2006	7105322	100.0	2287268	32.2	1889953	26.6	2928101	41.2
2007	7041874	100.0	2202098	31.3	1873857	26.6	2965919	42.1

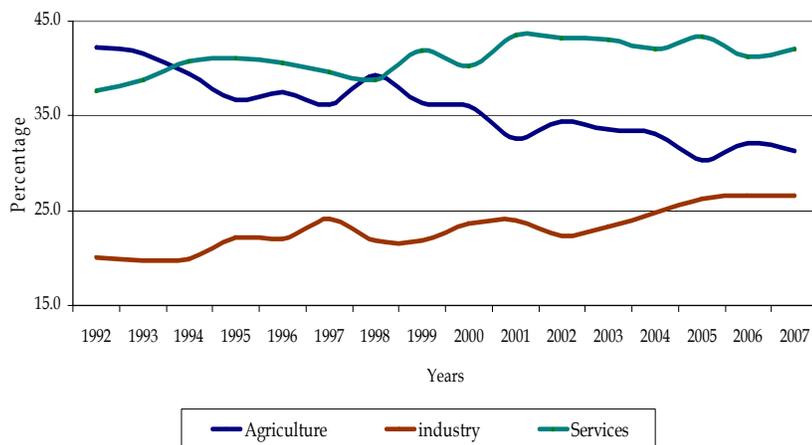
**Figure 9 : Percentage distribution of employed population by major industry group - 2007**



As shown in table 10, during the period from 1992 to 2007, 'Agriculture' is showing a downward trend, with some fluctuations. In 1992, the percentage share in the 'Agriculture' group was 42 percent and, in 2007 recorded percentage is 31.

On the other hand, percentage share of the 'Services' group has increased from 38 percent to 42 percent from 1992 to 2007. Similarly, the percentage share of 'Industry' group has increased from 20 percent to 27 percent during the period of 15 years.

**Figure 10 : Percentage distribution of employed population by major industry group - 1992-2007**



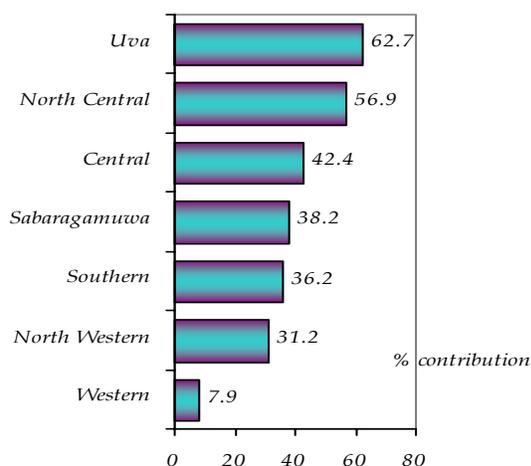
**Table 11 : Percentage distribution of employed population by major industry group by district - 2007**

District	Total	Major industry group		
		Agriculture	Industries	Services
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>42.1</b>
Colombo	100.0	3.3	30.8	65.9
Gampaha	100.0	6.1	39.8	54.0
Kalutara	100.0	20.3	31.5	48.2
Kandy	100.0	24.6	27.5	47.9
Matale	100.0	40.6	23.0	36.4
Nuwara Eliya	100.0	70.9	9.4	19.8
Galle	100.0	34.1	29.6	36.3
Matara	100.0	36.3	23.5	40.2
Hambantota	100.0	39.3	27.6	33.1
Kurunegala	100.0	32.7	28.3	39.0
Puttalam	100.0	27.8	30.8	41.4
Anuradhapura	100.0	60.0	10.4	29.6
Polonnaruwa	100.0	49.2	19.4	31.5
Badulla	100.0	63.9	11.2	24.9
Moneragala	100.0	60.6	12.7	26.6
Ratnapura	100.0	43.3	25.9	30.8
Kegalle	100.0	30.7	29.5	39.9

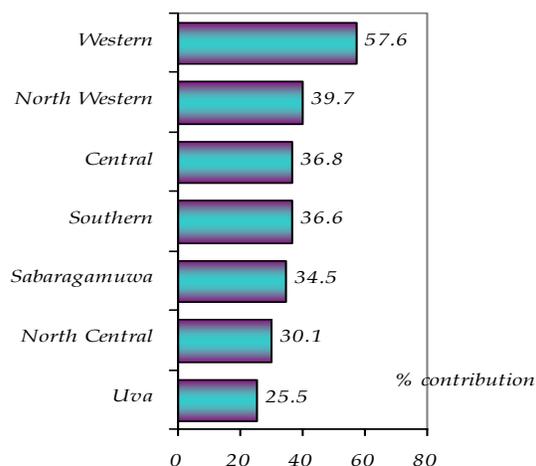
Table 11 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by major industry groups for districts. The data indicate that, there is a significant variation of employed distribution in agriculture sector among districts. It varies from a share of 3 percent in Colombo district to 71 percent in Nuwara Eliya district. The survey gives evidence that, agriculture is the most prominent major industry group in all other districts except districts in Western province, for which low percentage have been reported. On the other hand, Colombo district shows the highest employment contribution of 66 percent to the 'services' sector, followed by Gampaha district (54%) and Kalutara district (48.2%). Further the survey reports that wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles and personal and household goods, transport, storage & communication are main service sector activities, of these districts.

Figure 11 and figure 12 illustrate, provincial level distribution of employed population by major industry groups. The contribution made by the total employed persons to the 'agriculture' group is highest in Uva province (63%) . Further Western province shows highest employment contribution for service sector.

**Figure 11 : Agriculture sector contribution by provinces - 2007**



**Figure 12 : Services sector contribution by province - 2007**



### 4.3 Employment by Level of education

Figure 13: Percentage distribution of employment by level of education and by year (1997 - 2007)

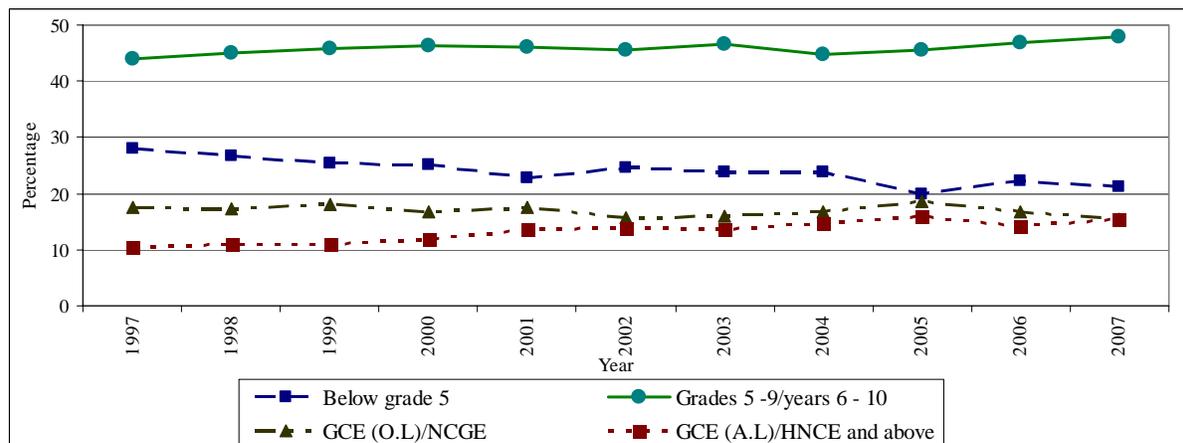


Figure 13 shows that level of education grade (5 - 9) shows higher percentage of employed persons over the years. Also the figure reveals that percentage of employed persons with G.C.E.(A/L)/HNCE and above education level has an increasing trend over the years, which is the opposite for below grade 5 education group.

Figure 14 : Percentage distribution of employment status and sex - 2007

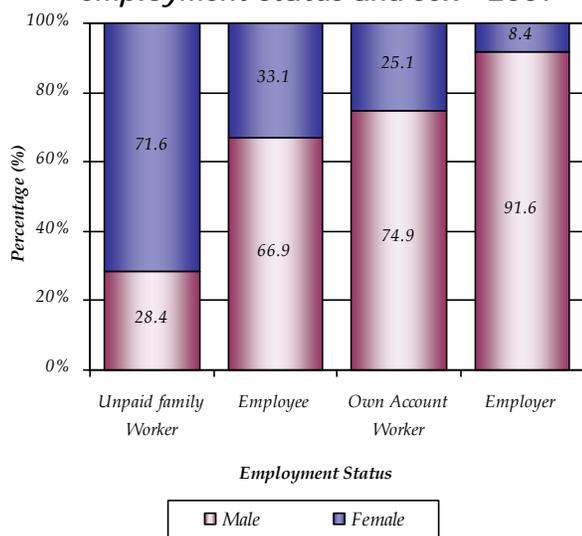


Table 12 : Percentage distribution of employment status and sex - 2007

Employment status	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>33.9</b>
Employee	100	66.9	33.1
Employer	100	91.6	8.4
Own account worker	100	74.9	25.1
Unpaid family worker	100	28.4	71.6

Table 13: Percentage distribution of Employed population by selected employment and district - 2007

District	Own account worker	Unpaid family worker
Total	30.4	10.3
Colombo	23.4	3.5
Gampaha	22.9	5.2
Kalutara	26.1	4.9
Kandy	27.3	9.3
Matale	34.2	17.2
Nuwara Eliya	21.0	11.1
Galle	24.2	7.9
Matara	32.3	7.9
Hambantota	45.3	13.3
Kurunegala	35.7	10.7
Puttalam	32.3	6.2
Anuradhapura	40.8	28.2
Polonnaruwa	44.1	15.5
Badulla	32.5	22.2
Moneragala	45.3	25.3
Ratnapura	37.4	9.2
Kegalle	27.2	7.6

Table 13 shows the percentage contribution made by own account workers and the unpaid family workers at the district level. In Hambantota, Moneragala, Polonnaruwa & Anuradhapura districts, more than 40% of total employment comprises with own account workers. Contributions made to the total employment by unpaid family workers are comparatively higher in Anuradhapura, Moneragala & Badulla districts which are identified as having higher female labour force participation rates in section 3.4.

#### 4.4 Employment by Occupation

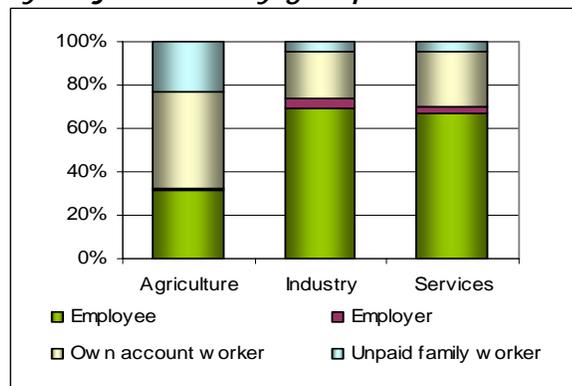
**Table 14 : Percentage distribution of employment by occupation and sex - 2007**

Occupation	Total	Sex		% contribution of females to the total employment
		Male	Female	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	33.9
Senior Officials and Managers	1.8	2.0	1.4	26.2
Professionals	5.2	3.2	9.2	59.7
Technical and Associate Professionals	5.4	5.5	5.2	32.4
Clerks	4.0	3.0	6.1	51.2
Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises	7.0	8.2	4.8	23.2
Sales and Service workers	7.2	6.9	7.9	37.3
Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers	21.4	19.9	24.2	38.4
Craft and Related workers	17.1	16.7	17.7	35.2
Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers	8.0	10.8	2.5	10.5
Elementary occupations	22.4	23	21.1	32.0
Unidentified	0.6	0.8	*	4.7

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

The occupational profiles of women and men are quite distinct. Table 14 compares the proportion of men and women employed in different occupational sectors. Women are heavily concentrated in certain occupations and almost one quarter (24%) of female workers are employed in 'Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers' occupation compared with 19.9 percent of males. In contrast, 9.2 percent of females work in 'Professional' occupation compared with 3.2 percent of males. Table 14 also shows the percentage contribution of females to the total employment by each occupational group. This clearly shows that 59.7 percent of professional are women. Occupation group of 'Professionals' includes Teachers, Nurses, .....etc.

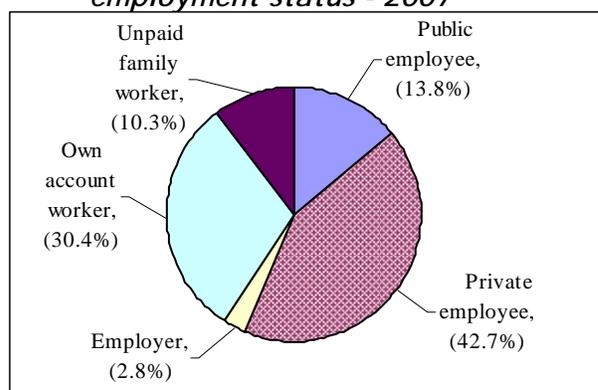
**Figure 16: Percentage distribution of employment by Employment status and by major industry group - 2007**



**Table 15: Percentage distribution of employment status and sex - 2007**

Employment status	Total		Sex			
	No	%	Male		Female	
			No	%	No.	%
Total	7041874	100.0	4653067	100.0	2388807	100.0
Employee	3976624	56.5	2660635	57.2	1315989	55.1
Public	968525	13.8	560856	12.1	407668	17.1
Private	3008099	42.7	2099779	45.1	908320	38.0
Employer	200378	2.8	183510	3.9	16869	0.7
Own account worker	2140139	30.4	1603039	34.5	537100	22.5
Unpaid family worker	724733	10.3	205883	4.4	518850	21.7

**Figure 15 : Percentage distribution of employment status - 2007**



It is estimated that, total public sector employees is about 1 million. The percentage of female paid employees those who are engaged in the public sector is higher (17%) than as that of males (12%) .

When the total employment is considered only 2.8 percent is employers and male employer contribution is about 3.9 percent. Contribution to the total employment by unpaid family workers is 10.3, and it is 21.7 percent for females, which is much higher compared to the contribution of males.



The figure 16 shows distribution of employment by employment status in agriculture sector is different from other two sectors, where higher percentages of own account workers and unpaid family workers can be observed.

#### 4.5

#### Average gross salary and its distribution of paid employees

Labour force survey collects the information from the monthly and daily wage earners. (only from the paid employees.) Analysis of the mean and median monthly salary for monthly wage earners and daily wage earners by urban/rural sector is shown in table 16.

**Table 16 : Mean & median monthly gross salary by sector (Rs.) - 2007**

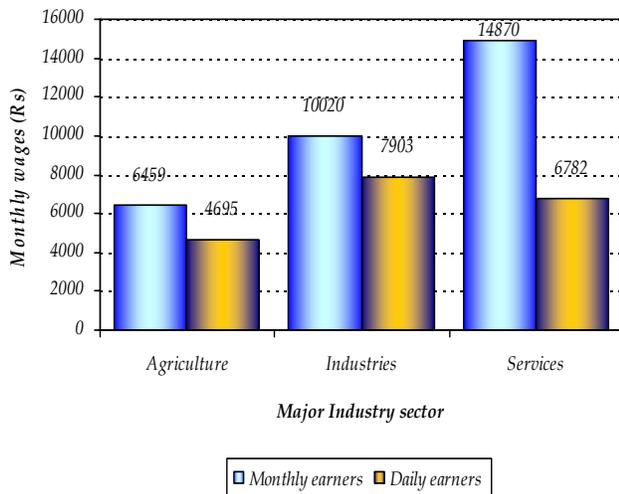
	Monthly wage earners		Daily wage earners	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Mean	15,701	12,088	7,920	6,308
Median	12,000	10,000	7,500	5,870

Data reveals that, both average & median monthly salaries are higher in the urban sector for both monthly and daily wage earners.

**Table 17 : Mean & median monthly gross salary by major industry groups by daily/ monthly earners - 2007**

	Monthly wage earners		
	Agriculture	Industry	Services
Mean	6,459	10,020	14,870
Median	5,000	8,000	14,000
	Daily wage earners		
	Agriculture	Industry	Services
Mean	4,695	7,903	6,782
Median	4,320	7,500	6,000

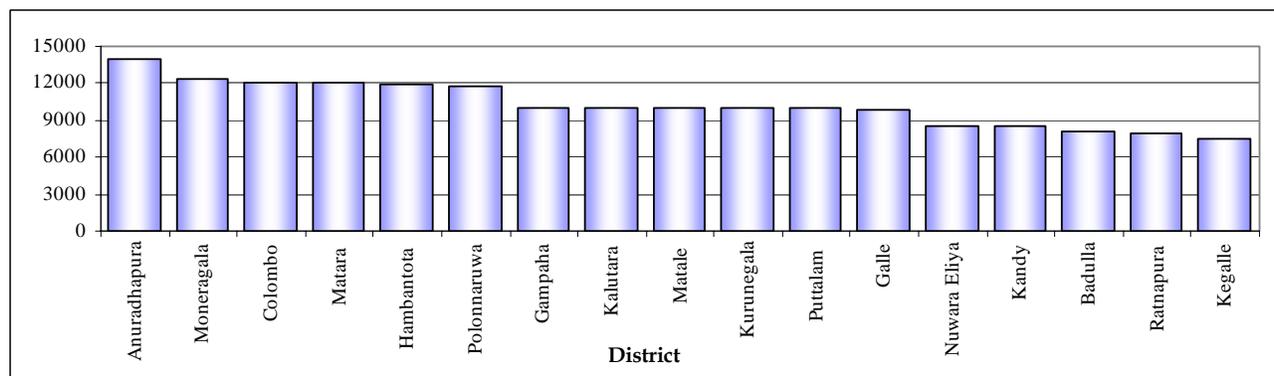
**Figure 17 : Average gross salary by major industry groups by daily/ monthly earners - 2007**



Looking at the mean & median monthly salary distribution of monthly earners and the daily earners by major industry groups, it reveals that, mean & median monthly salary of the employees in the services sector who are paid on monthly basis, is much higher than as that for other two sectors. It can also be seen that, there is a notable difference between the average gross salary among the three major industry groups, when monthly wage earners are considered.

Distribution of the median values of gross salary of the monthly salary earners by district, reveals some interesting features. Anuradhapura district shows the highest median showing Moneragala district shows the second highest Colombo district shows the third highest median monthly salary reported from monthly paid employees.

**Figure 18: Median monthly salary of paid employees - district level distribution ( Monthly wage earners) - 2007**



# CHAPTER 5 - Unemployment

## 5.1 Unemployment

The unemployed population is defined as persons who are not employed and who are available and looking for work, and had taken specific steps to find a job during the reference period.

Table 19 shows that, the number of unemployed persons is estimated as about 447,000 during the year 2007. Of this total, 47 percent are males and 53 percent are females.

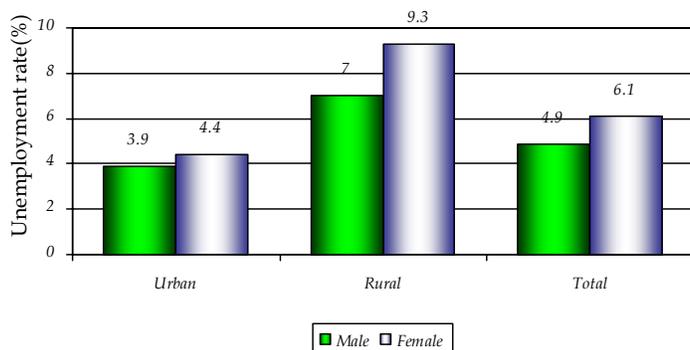
## 5.2 Unemployment rate

The unemployment rate is defined as the ratio of the number of persons unemployed to the total number in the labour force. Table 18 shows the unemployment rates for the period of 1993 to 2007. In 1993, the unemployment rate was 13.8 percent and it has declined to 6.0 percent in 2007.

**Table 19 : Number unemployed and unemployment rate by sex and sector - 2007**

Sector	Total		Male		Female	
	Number unemployed	Unemployment rate	Number unemployed	Unemployment rate	Number unemployed	Unemployment rate
Total	447021	6.0	209721	4.3	237300	9.0
Urban	39277	4.9	21492	3.9	17785	7.0
Rural	407744	6.1	188229	4.4	219516	9.3

**Figure 19 : Unemployment rates by sex and sector - 2007**



Further, unemployment rate reported for year 2007, at national level is 6.0 and, the rates for the urban and rural sectors are 4.9 percent and 6.1 percent respectively. Thus, the unemployment rate is higher for rural sector than urban sector. Highest unemployment rate is recorded from Matara district (Table 20)

It could also be seen that, at the national level, the unemployment rate for females (9.0%) is more than twice the rate recorded for males (4.3%). Also it is clear that rural unemployment is comparatively severe than urban employment.

**Table 18 : Unemployment Rates : 1993-2007**

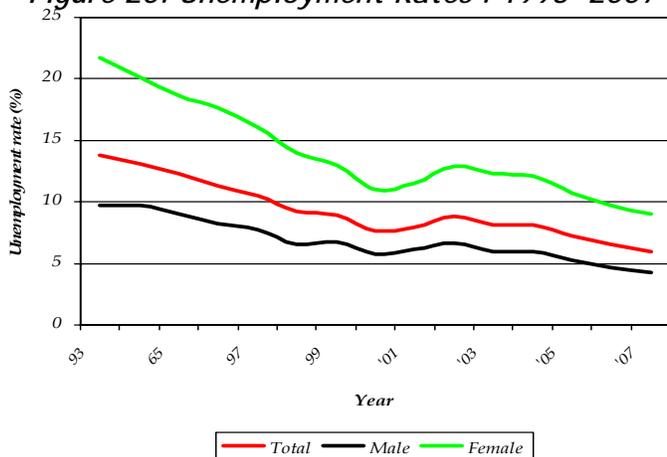
Year	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
1993	13.8	9.7	21.7
1994	13.1	9.7	20.1
1995	12.3	9.0	18.7
1996	11.3	8.2	17.7
1997	10.5	7.7	16.1
1998	9.2	6.5	14.0
1999	8.9	6.7	13.0
2000	7.6	5.8	11.0
2001	7.9	6.2	11.5
2002	8.8	6.6	12.9
2003	8.1	6.0	12.3
2004	8.1	6.0	12.1
2005	7.2	5.3	10.7
2006	6.5	4.7	9.7
2007	6.0	4.3	9.0

Female unemployment rate has declined from 21.7 to 9.0 from 1993 to 2007, which indicates increasing trend of female contribution to the economy.

**Table 20: Unemployment rates by district - 2007**

District	Unemployment rate
Total	6.0
Colombo	5.3
Gampaha	4.7
Kalutara	8.0
Kandy	7.6
Matale	3.5
Nuwara eliya	4.1
Galle	7.8
Matara	9.2
Hambantota	8.8
Kurunegala	5.9
Puttalam	5.5
Anuradhapura	3.4
Polonnaruwa	7.1
Badulla	5.2
Monaragala	4.1
Ratnapura	6.3
Kegalle	6.1

**Figure 20: Unemployment Rates : 1993- 2007**

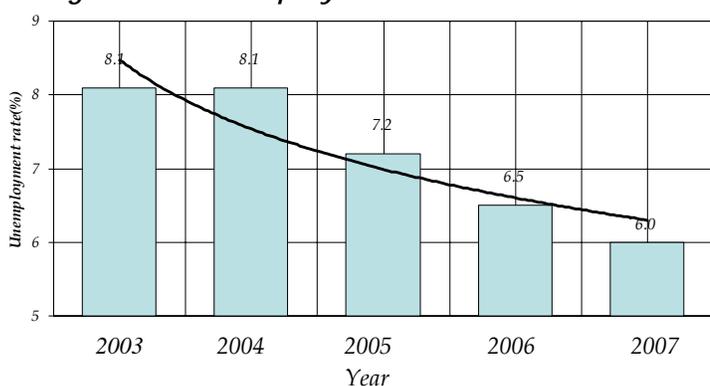


As can be seen from the table 18 and as illustrated in figure 20, the declining trend of unemployment rate has been continuing during the period from 1993 to year 2007.

Further, it is very important to notice that, there is no statistically significant differences between some consecutive years, when sampling error<sup>(2)</sup> is considered.

However, the declining trend of unemployment has continued. It is also apparent that, there is a significant decrease of unemployment rate reported in 2007 when compared with the unemployment rates reported in 2004 and 2005, even when sampling error<sup>(2)</sup> is considered. This scenario is described in figure 21.

**Figure 21 : Unemployment Rates : 2003-2007**



### 5.3 Unemployment rate by Level of Education and by age groups

**Table 21: Unemployment rates by age groups and sex - 2007**

Age group	Sex		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	6.0	4.3	9.0
15 - 19	21.6	19.6	25.6
20 - 24	21.1	16.1	28.9
25 - 29	9.4	5.4	17.5
30-39	3.3	1.9	6.0
40+	1.3	1.2	1.5

Looking at the distribution of unemployment rates by age groups and sex, it reveals that the unemployment rate reported for female is higher in each age group than that of males.

Even though, the total unemployment rate is 6.0 percent, unemployment situation is worst among the youth (age 15-24 yrs) showing around 21 percent of unemployment rate.

**Table 22 : Unemployment Rates by level of education - 2007**

Level of Education	Unemployment rates		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	6.0	4.3	9.0
Below Gr 5	1.3	1.3	1.4
Gr 5-9	5.2	4.2	7.5
G.C.E. (O/L)	8.2	6.6	11.3
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	11.8	6.6	17.5

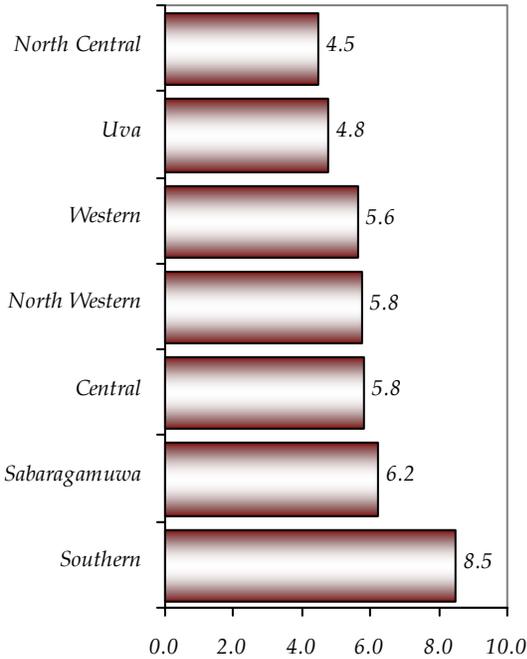
It also reveals that, the unemployment rate among the educated youth (G.C.E(A/L) and above) is reported to be about 11.8 percent. It is 6.6 percent and 17.5 percent for male and female respectively. This reveals that the problem of unemployment is more acute in the case of educated females than males.

*Note : <sup>(2)</sup> Please see the explanatory notes as in the appendix for more detail.*

#### 5.4 Unemployment Population by province

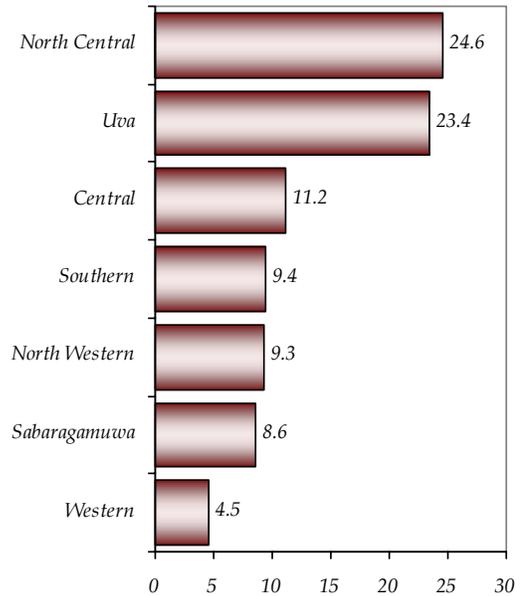
Figure 22 shows the unemployment situation in year 2007 for provinces. Unemployment situation is worst in Southern province showing an unemployment rate of 8.5.

Figure 22 : Unemployment rates by province - 2007



Looking at the 'Own account worker' category about 42 percent of total employment in North Central province are own account workers, while this share is 37 percent in Uva province. This may be due to the fact that, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa and Badulla districts, which are predominantly agricultural farming areas in the country.

Figure 23 : Percentage contribution of unpaid family workers by province - 2007



Looking at this scenario further, figure 23 illustrates the percentage contribution made by the unpaid family workers by province.

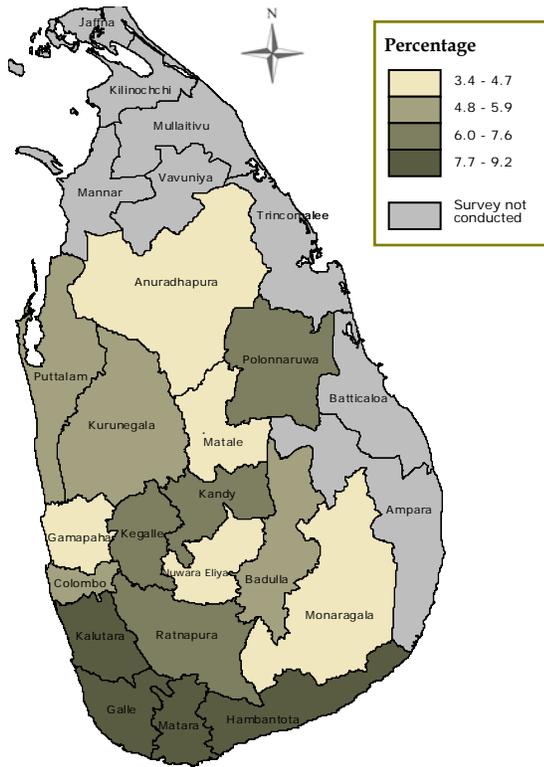
North Central province has reported the highest contribution made from the unpaid family workers to the labor force, which has the lowest unemployment rate of 4.5 percent. These results may imply that lower unemployment rate is a result of higher contribution of unpaid family workers of that provinces.

From the table 23, it could also be seen that, Western province shows the highest contribution of paid employees to the labour force showing 67.4 percent.

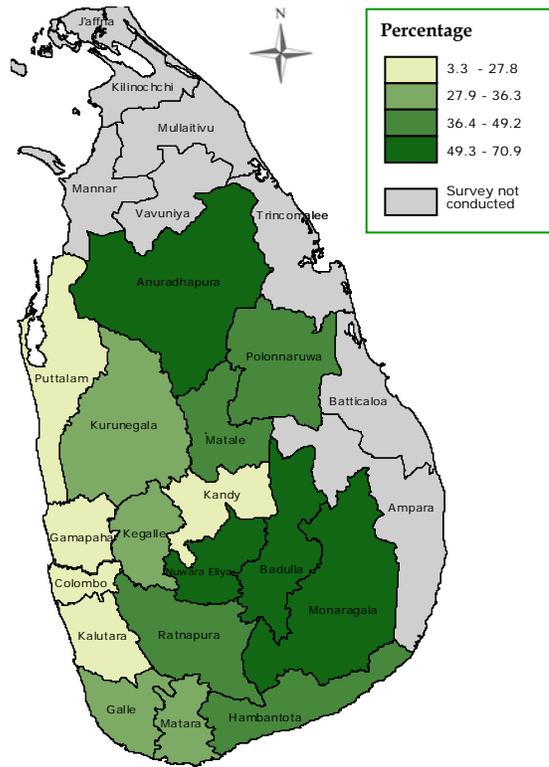
Table 23 : Unemployment rates and percentage distribution of employment by status of employment to the labour force by province -2007

Province	Unemployment rate	Employment status				
		Total	Paid employee	Employer	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker
Total	6.0	100.0	56.5	2.8	30.4	10.3
Western	5.6	100.0	67.4	4.4	23.7	4.5
Central	5.8	100.0	60.4	2.0	26.4	11.2
Southern	8.5	100.0	55.8	2.3	32.5	9.4
North Western	5.8	100.0	52.5	3.5	34.7	9.3
North Central	4.5	100.0	32.7	1.0	41.7	24.6
Uva	4.8	100.0	38.9	0.6	37.2	23.4
Sabaragamuwa	6.2	100.0	55.9	2.2	33.3	8.6

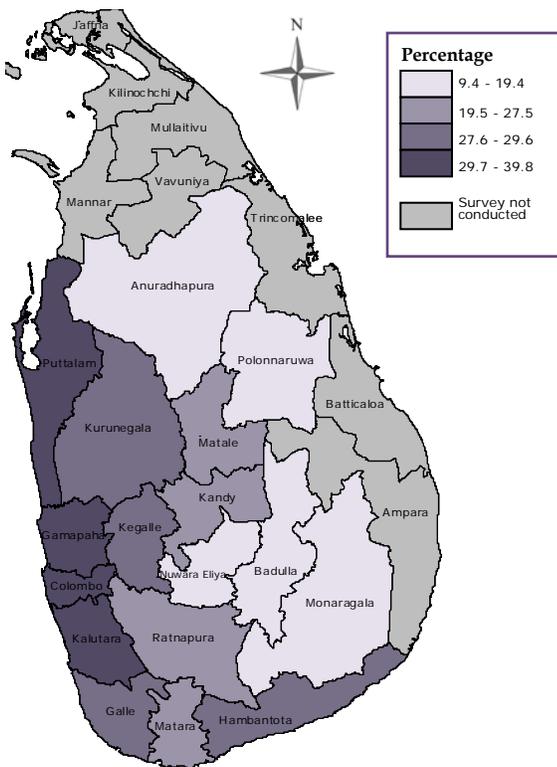
**Map (3) : Unemployment rate by District - 2007**



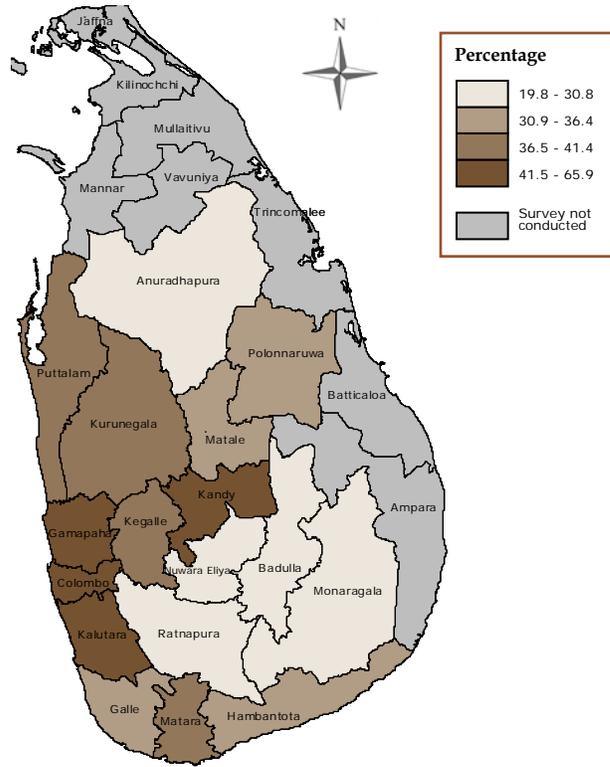
**Map (4) : Distribution of Employed Population in Agriculture sector by Districts - 2007**



**Map (5) : Distribution of Employed Population in Industries sector by Districts - 2007**



**Map (6) : Distribution of Employed Population in Services sector by Districts - 2007**



# CHAPTER 6 - Informal Sector Employment

## 6.1 The Informal Economy

The Informal Sector represents an important segment of the economy and the labour market in many countries, especially developing countries; thus, measurement of the informal sector is important in their own right as well as contributing towards exhaustive estimates of GDP. Further informal sector plays a major role in employment creation, production and income generation.

Since its first appearance in the early 1970's the term "informal sector" has become so popular and nowadays it is used with different meanings for different purposes. Originally it referred to a concept for data analysis and policy making. Now it's sometimes used in a much broader sense to refer to a concept for the collection of data on activities not covered by the existing, conventional source of statistics.

A review of national statistical definitions of the informal sector shows that presently they do not always fully correspond to the international definition adopted by the 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians (15<sup>th</sup> ICLC) and the System of National Accounts (SNA) 1993.

However, the international comparability of data on the informal sector is affected by national differences in data sources, in the geographical coverage of surveys, in the branches of economic activity covered etc. Therefore, criteria which is to define the informal sector vary among countries. However, most of the countries tends to collect informal sector information, especially those using labour force or other household surveys for the measurement of employment in the informal sector, were advised by the experts that use the criteria of **registration of the organization, accounts keeping system and size of their organization.**

In such situation, Department of Census and Statistics observed the necessity of having informal sector information, and therefore, after carefully reviewing of LFS schedule with the assistance of the ESCAP regional advisor on Economic Statistics, relevant questions were included in the LFS schedule to collect the information relating to the informal sector on the following items.

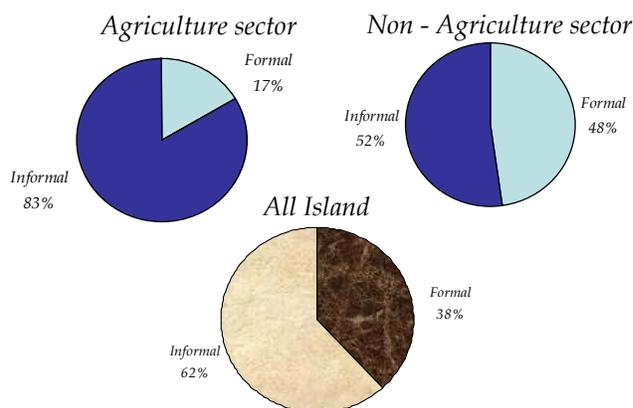
1. *Registration of the organization*
2. *Accounts keeping practices of the Organization*
3. *Total number of regular employees of the organization*

## 6.2 Informal sector by Agriculture/ Non-Agriculture sector

**Table 24 : Composition of employment by economic sector - 2007**

	Total		Formal sector		Informal sector	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total employment	7041874	100.0	2685848	38.1	4356026	61.9
Agricultural employment	2202098	100.0	367766	16.7	1834332	83.3
Non - Agricultural employment	4839777	100.0	2318082	47.9	2521694	52.1

**Figure 24 : Distribution of Informal /Formal employment by Agriculture/non-agriculture sector - 2007**



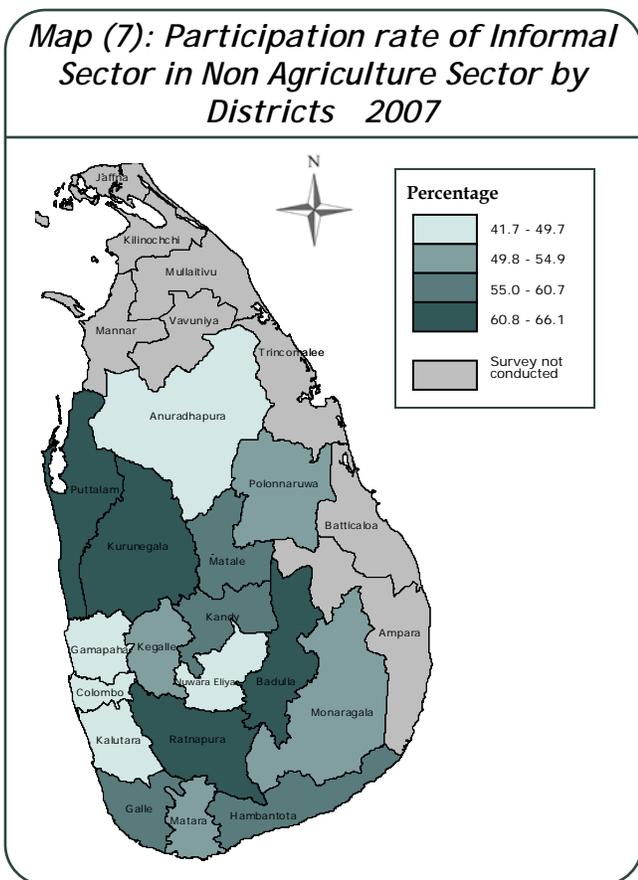
**Table 25 : Employment by economic sector by sex - 2007**

Sex	Sector					
	Total		Formal		Informal	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7041874	100.0	2685848	38.1	4356026	61.9
Male	4653067	100.0	1642724	35.3	3010343	64.7
Female	2388807	100.0	1043125	43.7	1345683	56.3

Figure 24 shows that, in Sri Lanka 62 percent of the total employment is in the informal sector. It is also revealed that, Agriculture sector comprises 83 percent of informal sector employment and the balance 17 percent is formal sector employment. The reported high percentage of formal sector employment (16%) in the agriculture sector, may be due to the plantation workers, who are working in estates, which are managed by the government owned, owned by large plantation companies.

### 6.3 Informal sector employment by district

It is very important to see the percentage distribution of the informal economy at the district level. As discussed, most of the agricultural activities are in informal nature, and therefore, developing countries always try to see the contribution of the informal sector employment in the non-agricultural sector.



According to the estimates, 52 percent of the total non-agricultural employment are in the informal sector. There are also significant differences in the informal sector employment in non-agricultural sector among the districts.

Puttalam district shows the highest percentage of informal sector employment in non-agricultural sector, about 66 percent. Gampaha and Colombo districts shows lowest percentages 42 percent and 44 percent respectively.

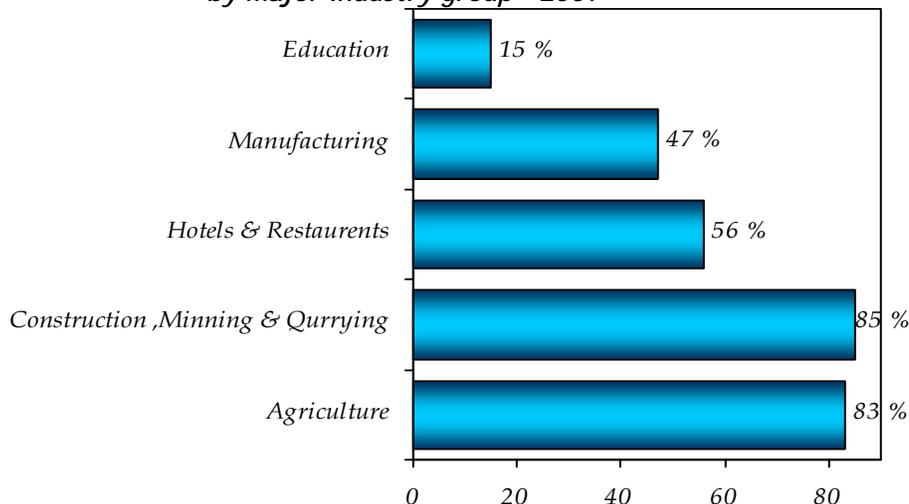
**Table 26: Percentage distribution of informal sector employment in Non- Agricultural sector - 2007**

District	Percentage	District	Percentage
<b>Total</b>	<b>52.1</b>	Hambantota	60.6
Colombo	43.9	Kurunegala	61.6
Gampaha	41.7	Puttalam	66.1
Kalutara	48.1	Anuradhapura	49.7
Kandy	59.7	Polonnaruwa	54.2
Matale	60.7	Badulla	63.7
Nuwara Eliya	48.2	Moneragala	54.9
Galle	55.0	Ratnapura	62.5
Matara	54.2	Kegalle	51.9

### 6.4 Informal sector Employment by major Industry group

Looking at the Informal sector employment by major industry group, 83 percent of total agricultural employment are in the informal sector. This percentage for 'construction, Mining & Quarrying' industry group is 85 percent, 'Education' group consist with lowest percentage of informal sector employment. 47 percent of total employment in the 'Manufacturing' sector are in the informal sector.

**Figure 25 : Percentage of informal sector employment by major industry group - 2007**



**Table 27 : Employed population by level of education and by economic sector - 2007**

Level of education	Formal		Informal		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Below Gr. 5	313180	21.1	1173142	78.9	1486322	100.0
Gr. 5 - 9	955275	28.4	2412867	71.6	3368142	100.0
G.C.E.(O/L)	564504	51.5	531320	48.5	1095824	100.0
G.C.E.(A/L) & above	852889	78.1	238697	21.9	1091586	100.0
Total	2685848	38.1	4356026	61.9	7041874	100.0

As shown in table 27, it is clearly revealed that, employment in the formal sector is more contributed a higher level of education while it is the opposite for informal sector employment.

**Figure 26 : Percentage Distribution of informal sector employment by Employment status - 2007**



**Table 28: Distribution of employed population by employment status and by economic sector- 2007**

Status in Employment	Formal sector		Informal sector		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Regular Employees	2385278	88.8	1591346	36.5	3976624	56.5
Employer	96247	3.6	104131	2.4	200378	2.8
Own account worker	141678	5.3	1998461	45.9	2140139	30.4
Unpaid family worker	62645	2.3	662088	15.2	724733	10.3
Total	2685848	100.0	4356026	100.0	7041874	100.0

It can be noticed by the table 28 that, about 61.1 percent of employment in informal sector are own account workers and unpaid family workers, and this share is only 7.6 percent for formal sector.

Looking at the occupational breakdown of formal sector and informal sector employment, it is obvious that regarding skilled agricultural and fishery workers, only 2 percent belongs to the formal sector. Again by economic sector, outside of agriculture occupation group, " Craft and related workers", "Plant and machine operators and assemblers", " Elementary occupations" groups are seem to be more important in informal sector than formal sector.

Different scenario can be seen when "Senior Officials and Managers", " Professionals" and Clerks" occupation groups are considered.

**Table 29 : Distribution of employed population by their main occupation and economic sector- 2007**

Occupation	Sector				Total	
	Formal		Informal		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
1	119025	96.5	*	*	123290	100.0
2	312664	85.3	54004	14.7	366668	100.0
3	324708	85.1	56888	14.9	381596	100.0
4	263769	93.0	19934	7.0	283703	100.0
5	143356	29.0	351159	71.0	494515	100.0
6	212207	41.7	296282	58.3	508488	100.0
7	31294	2.1	1472376	97.9	1503669	100.0
8	367796	30.6	833802	69.4	1201598	100.0
9	233271	41.4	330656	58.6	563927	100.0
10	639543	40.6	934570	59.4	1574113	100.0
0	38216	94.8	*	*	40306	100.0
Total	2685848	38.1	4356026	61.9	7041874	100.0

\* Cell size is not adequate to provide reliable estimates.

**Occupation group**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Senior Officials and Managers           | 7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers   |
| 2 Professionals                           | 8 Craft and Related workers                  |
| 3 Technical and Associate Professionals   | 9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers |
| 4 Clerks                                  | 10 Elementary occupations                    |
| 5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises | 0 Unidentified                               |
| 6 Sales and Service workers               |  |

# CHAPTER 7 - Underemployment

## 7.1 Concept of underemployment

The importance of the concept of Under-employment has long been recognized. At the international level, the concept was accepted at the Sixth International Conference of Labour Statisticians ICLS (1948). According to the 1966 ICLS resolution, "underemployment" exists when a person's employment is inadequate, in relation to specified norms or alternative employment, account being taken of his occupational skill (training and working experience)".

Two principal forms of under-employment are distinguished: visible underemployment and invisible under-employment. Visible under-employment, reflecting an insufficiency in the volume of employment, and invisible under-employment, characterized by low income, under utilization of skill, low productivity and other factors. The 1982 ICLS resolution recognized, however, that "for operational reasons the statistical measurement of underemployment may be limited to visible underemployment". It refined the definition and introduced an approach to combine the measurement of visible underemployment with that of unemployment.

Underemployment has particular relevance in developing countries, notably in connection with agriculture. It has been observed that measurement of underemployment has mostly been recommended for describing the employment situation in developing countries

## 7.2 Criteria for classification of underemployment

In order to classify an employed persons as visibly underemployed,

### (i) If the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her main activity

In Sri Lanka scenario, 35 hours per week is taken as the cut-off point applicable to all workers, except government teachers, as in practice, though teachers do have a normal duration of work which is below the general cut-off point, they should be on a full time schedule according to the nature of their job. Further, those who do have a secondary job, or those who are employers, were considered as having worked the normal duration in their respective activity.

Therefore, if the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her activity (as described above), then the person is further questioned to ascertain whether he/she is prepared and available for further work if provided. Such persons are considered underemployed in their respective employment.

### (ii) If the person has worked more than the normal duration in his/her activity

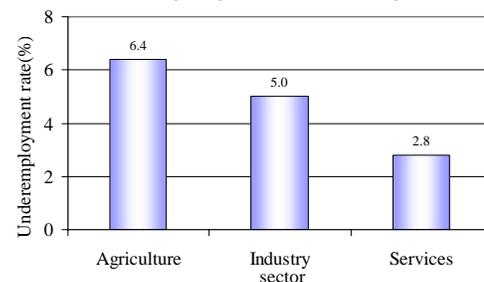
If the person has worked even more than 35 hours usually, but he has worked less than 35 hours actually in the reference period, only due to the off season or bad weather, such persons were also further questioned to check their underemployment situation, considering them as a special category.

Applying above mentioned criteria, an attempt has been made to estimate under-employment and it is estimated that, "underemployment rate" which is defined as the number of underemployed persons as a percentage of employed persons, is 4.5.

**Table 30 : Underemployment rate by major industries - 2007**

Sector	Rate
Total	4.5
Agriculture	6.4
Industry	5.0
Services	2.8

**Figure 27: Underemployment rates by sector - 2007**



As can be seen from table 30, underemployment rates have shown a marked difference among the sectors 'agriculture', 'services' and 'industries'. The respective rates are 6.4, 2.8 and 5.0 percent. It is also noted that, there are considerable difference of underemployment rates among the people those who have different educational qualifications, also females show higher underemployment rates than those of males for all levels of education.

**Table 31: Underemployment rates by educational level and sex - 2007**

Educational qualifications	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Total	4.5	3.9	5.7
Below Gr.5	5.5	5.3	5.8
Gr. 5-9	4.8	4.2	6.5
G.C.E.(O/L)	3.8	2.7	6.0
G.C.E.(A/L) and above	2.9	2.3	3.5

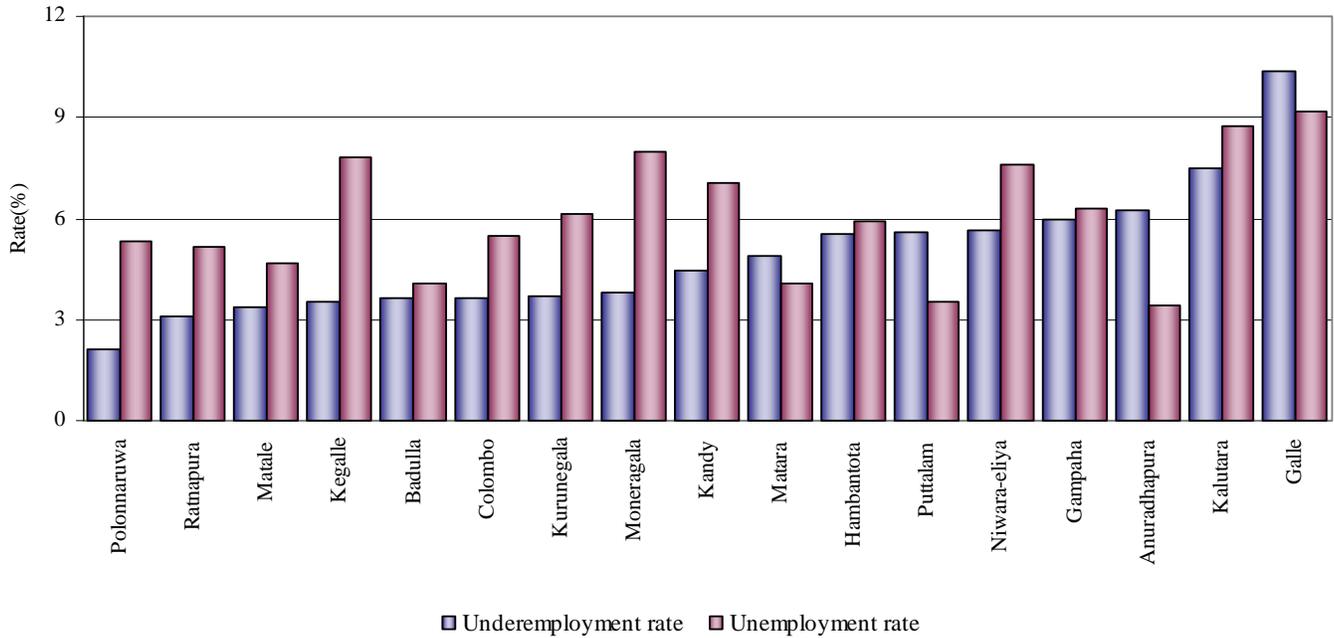
**Table 32: Underemployment rate by year & by sex**

2006			2007		
Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
5.3	4.8	6.3	4.5	3.9	5.7

Table 32 shows that underemployment rate fluctuates around 5 percent, during both 2006 & 2007 years.

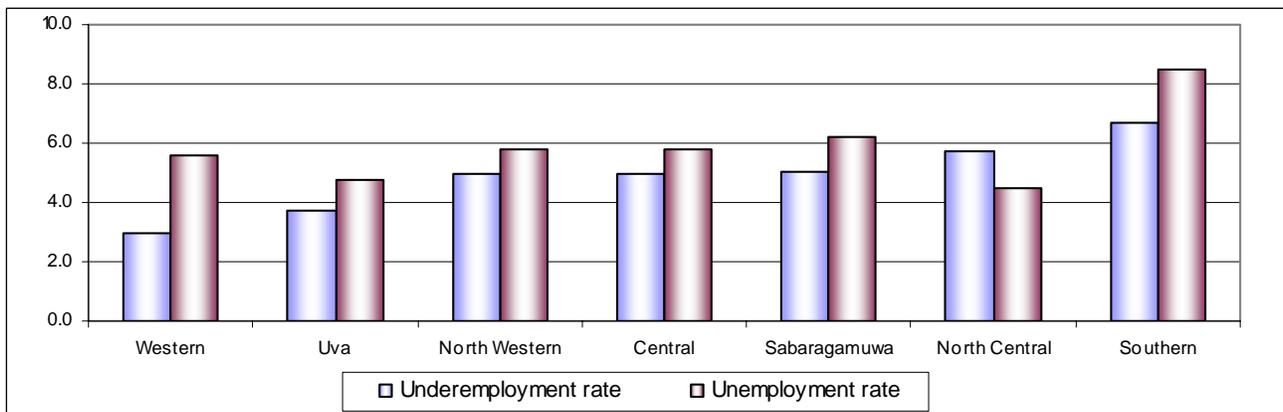
### 7.3 Underemployment & Unemployment by District and Province

Figure 28: Underemployment rate and Unemployment rate by district - 2007



Above distribution (Figure 28) reveals that both highest unemployment and underemployment rates are recorded from Galle district and Kalutara district is in second place.

Figure 29: Underemployment rate and Unemployment rate by province



The distribution of unemployment rate and underemployment rate by province (Figure 29) shows that Southern province has highest rates for both.

Both unemployment and underemployment indicator the problems prevailing in labour market. It is clear from the data that more attention should be paid for some districts when the labour market issues are addressed.

# CHAPTER 8 - Literacy

## 8.1 Literacy Rates by Sex and Sector

In order to provide information for educational planners, especially in developing countries, literacy is an important variable regarding the issues such as improvement of the educational system, increasing the educational related programs etc.

It should be noted that, so far, information relating to literacy was collected only from the Census which is generally conducted once in 10 years time.

As labour force surveys are often conducted at a higher frequency than the other surveys, it was decided to include the questions on literacy in order to provide quarterly estimates for the data users and for the policy makers.

A person who can both read and write with understanding a short statement is considered as "literate". A person who can read and write only his name, figures or memorized phrase, were not be considered as "Literate"

**Table 33 : Literacy rates by sex and sector - 2007**

Sri Lanka	Sector	
	Urban	Rural
91.1	93.1	90.8
	Sex	
	Male	Female
91.1	92.4	89.9

Among the persons of 10 years and above, 13.5 million were reported as literate. All island literacy rate reported was 91.1 percent.

Situation in the urban sector, in relation to literacy, is slightly better as compared with the rural sector. Also, literacy rate of males is relatively high when compared with as that of females.

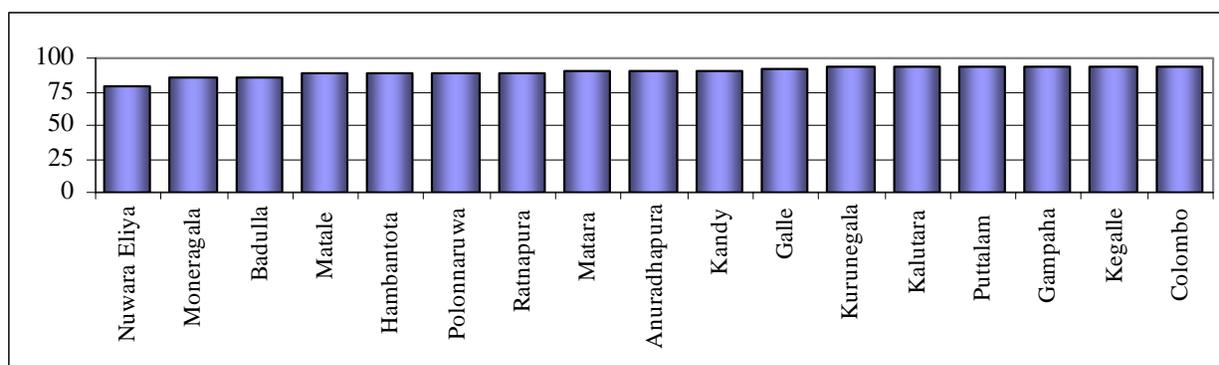
## 8.2 District level pattern of Literacy levels

**Table 34 : Literacy rate by district & sex - 2007**

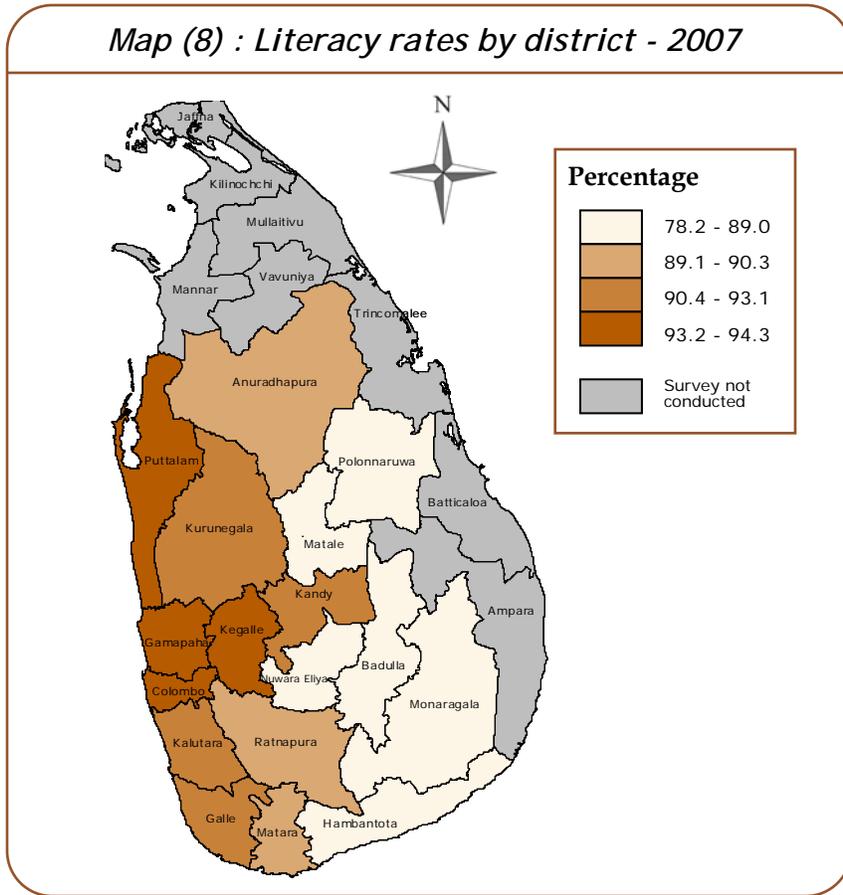
District	Literacy Rate		
	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)
Total	91.1	92.4	89.9
Colombo	94.3	94.9	93.7
Gampaha	93.4	93.7	93.2
Kalutara	93.1	93.7	92.4
Kandy	90.8	93.0	88.9
Matale	88.5	90.0	87.3
Nuwara Eliya	78.2	84.9	72.5
Galle	91.6	92.1	91.1
Matara	90.3	90.6	90.1
Hambantota	89.0	90.5	87.5
Kurunegala	92.9	94.6	91.4
Puttalam	93.3	93.9	92.7
Anuradhapura	90.3	91.8	89.0
Polonnaruwa	89.0	89.1	89.0
Badulla	85.1	87.8	82.7
Moneragala	85.0	85.7	84.4
Ratnapura	89.3	92.1	86.6
Kegalle	93.9	94.6	93.2

Table 31 provides district pattern of the literacy levels. Colombo district shows the highest literacy rate showing 94 percent and lowest in Nuwara Eliya district i.e. 78.2 percent

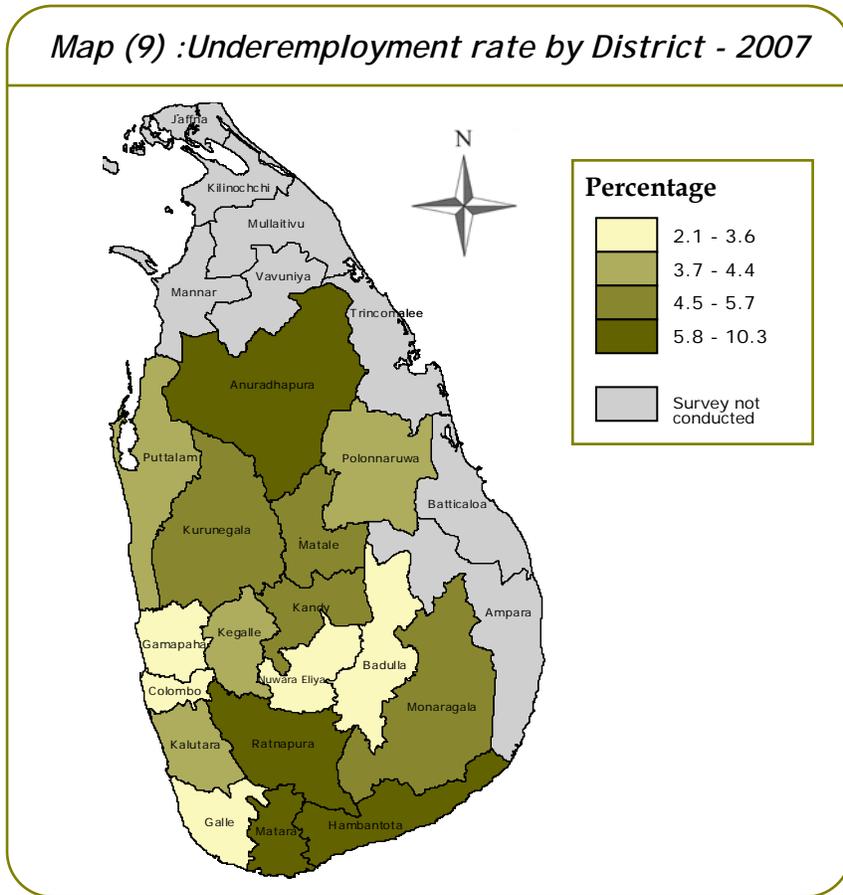
**Figure 30: Literacy rates by Districts - 2007**



**Map (8) : Literacy rates by district - 2007**



**Map (9) : Underemployment rate by District - 2007**



**TABLE 1 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION,  
10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
1990	11573941	6001148	51.9	5047354	84.1	953794	15.9	5572793
1991	11795793	5877198	49.8	5015517	85.3	861680	14.7	5918596
1992	12058463	5808062	48.2	4962105	85.4	845957	14.6	6250400
1993	12278055	6032383	49.1	5201474	86.2	830910	13.8	6245675
1994	12492850	6078863	48.7	5281272	86.9	797591	13.1	6413985
1995	12736185	6106138	47.9	5357117	87.7	749021	12.3	6630048
1996	12831240	6241889	48.6	5537285	88.7	704604	11.3	6589365
1997	12870791	6266160	48.7	5607881	89.5	658279	10.5	6604630
1998	12881790	6660520	51.7	6049238	90.8	611285	9.2	6221274
1999	13169250	6673487	50.7	6082641	91.2	590846	8.9	6495782
2000	13564660	6827312	50.3	6310145	92.4	517168	7.6	6737345
2001	13870479	6772834	48.8	6235588	92.1	537246	7.9	7097644
2002	14201396	7145382	50.3	6519415	91.2	625967	8.8	7056014
*2003	15651479	7653716	48.9	7012755	91.6	640961	8.4	7997763
** 2004	16593431	8061354	48.6	7394029	91.7	667324	8.3	8532077
*** 2005	16870976	8141347	48.3	7518007	92.3	623341	7.7	8729628
# 2006	14833801	7598762	51.2	7105322	93.5	493440	6.5	7235040
# 2007	15047882	7488896	49.8	7041874	94.0	447021	6.0	7558986

**Note: The normal Labour Force Survey programme was not implemented in 2005 due to the Tsunami - 2004. However a special labour force survey was conducted in August 2005 and the estimates based on this special survey are given under year 2005.**

(Up to 2002 fourth quarter, both Northern & Eastern provinces are excluded from the estimates.)

\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\* - All the districts are included

# - Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

**TABLE 1A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION, 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - MALE**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1993	6109486	3989443	65.3	3601779	90.3	387663	9.7	2120044
*1994	6228064	4072937	65.4	3678648	90.3	394289	9.7	2155127
*1995	6318003	4068608	64.4	3700951	91.0	367656	9.0	2249395
*1996	6373670	4200886	65.9	3857147	91.8	343741	8.2	2172784
*1997	6372365	4184248	65.6	3862087	92.3	322168	7.7	2188110
*1998	6344453	4281996	67.5	4004504	93.5	277491	6.5	2062456
*1999	6506662	4402713	67.7	4107497	93.3	295217	6.7	2103953
*2000	6702871	4501597	67.2	4241477	94.2	260120	5.8	2201274
*2001	6837264	4529016	66.2	4248877	93.8	280139	6.2	2308248
*2002	6935012	4705586	67.9	4395164	93.4	310421	6.6	2229427
**2003	7657368	5144206	67.2	4833483	94.0	310723	6.0	2513162
***2004	8049643	5372897	66.7	5049426	94.0	323471	6.0	2676746
****2005	8103016	5436362	67.1	5134765	94.5	301597	5.5	2666654
* 2006	7098813	4837308	68.1	4610643	95.3	226664	4.7	2261505
* 2007	7174676	4862788	67.8	4653067	95.7	209721	4.3	2311888

**TABLE 1B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION, 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - FEMALE**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1993	6168572	2042941	33.1	1599695	78.3	443247	21.7	4125631
*1994	6264782	2005927	32.0	1602625	79.9	403302	20.1	4258857
*1995	6418183	2037530	31.7	1656166	81.3	381364	18.7	4380652
*1996	6457583	2041002	31.6	1680138	82.3	360864	17.7	4416583
*1997	6498427	2081906	32.0	1745794	83.9	336112	16.1	4416521
*1998	6537344	2378526	36.4	2044732	86.0	333795	14.0	4158818
*1999	6662613	2270782	34.1	1975153	87.0	295629	13.0	4392047
*2000	6861794	2325716	33.9	2068667	89.0	257048	11.0	4536078
*2001	7033214	2243818	31.9	1986711	88.5	257107	11.5	4789396
*2002	7266384	2439796	33.6	2124250	87.1	315546	12.9	4826588
**2003	7994111	2509510	31.4	2179272	86.8	330238	13.2	5484600
***2004	8543788	2688457	31.5	2344604	87.2	343853	12.8	5855331
**** 2005	8767960	2704985	30.9	2383241	88.1	321744	11.9	6062975
* 2006	7734989	2761454	35.7	2494679	90.3	266775	9.7	4973535
* 2007	7873206	2626108	33.4	2388807	91.0	237300	9.0	5247098

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 2 - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - BOTH SEXES**  
(2007)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
<b>ALL AGES</b>	15047882	7488896	49.8	7041874	94.0	447021	6.0	7558986
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	1538155	322898	21.0	253042	78.4	69856	21.6	1215257
20 - 24 YRS	1379152	871578	63.2	687961	78.9	183617	21.1	507573
25 - 29 YRS	1389910	934747	67.3	846754	90.6	87993	9.4	455163
30 - 39 YRS	2533972	1741435	68.7	1683183	96.7	58252	3.3	792536
40 + YRS	6618064	3602273	54.4	3555792	98.7	46480	1.3	3015791

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided.

**TABLE 2A - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - MALE**  
(2007 )

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	7174676	4862788	67.8	4653067	95.7	209721	4.3	2311888
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	772506	213365	27.6	171604	80.4	41761	19.6	559141
20 - 24 YRS	659947	531686	80.6	446265	83.9	85421	16.1	128261
25 - 29 YRS	656392	623951	95.1	590405	94.6	33546	5.4	32441
30 - 39 YRS	1180000	1125558	95.4	1104218	98.1	21339	1.9	54442
40 + YRS	3103727	2358999	76.0	2331439	98.8	27559	1.2	744728

**TABLE 2B - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - FEMALE**  
(2007 )

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	7873206	2626108	33.4	2388807	91.0	237300	9.0	5247098
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	765649	109533	14.3	81438	74.4	28095	25.6	656115
20 - 24 YRS	719205	339892	47.3	241696	71.1	98196	28.9	379313
25 - 29 YRS	733518	310796	42.4	256349	82.5	54447	17.5	422722
30 - 39 YRS	1353972	615878	45.5	578965	94.0	36913	6.0	738094
40 + YRS	3514337	1243274	35.4	1224353	98.5	18921	1.5	2271063

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

**TABLE 3 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.1	5.7	11.9	13.7	27.0	40.7
*1991	100.0	0.7	5.4	12.7	13.7	26.8	40.7
*1992	100.0	0.5	5.1	13.4	14.1	27.0	39.9
*1993	100.0	0.4	5.2	12.7	14.2	26.7	40.7
*1994	100.0	0.4	4.9	12.3	13.9	28.2	40.3
*1995	100.0	0.3	4.9	11.6	14.1	26.5	42.7
*1996	100.0	0.4	5.3	12.1	13.7	28.1	40.4
*1997	100.0	0.3	5.1	11.9	13.3	27.2	42.1
*1998	100.0	0.8	5.9	12.1	12.5	26.7	42.1
*1999	100.0	0.9	5.8	11.8	12.2	26.1	43.3
*2000	100.0	0.5	5.2	12.2	12.3	26.0	43.8
*2001	100.0	0.4	4.3	12.1	12.0	25.4	45.8
*2002	100.0	0.3	4.4	12.2	12.1	26.2	44.8
**2003	100.0	0.3	4.2	11.6	12.2	26.3	45.4
*** 2004	100.0	0.4	4.1	11.8	12.2	25.5	46.0
**** 2005	100.0	0.1	3.6	11.3	12.9	25.6	46.5
*2006	100.0	0.3	4.0	10.2	12.0	24.2	49.2
*2007	100.0	0.2	3.6	9.8	12.0	23.9	50.5

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 3A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.0	5.7	11.7	13.3	26.3	42.1
*1991	100.0	0.6	5.2	12.6	13.2	25.7	42.8
*1992	100.0	0.4	4.7	13.2	13.9	26.2	41.6
*1993	100.0	0.4	4.8	11.5	14.8	26.2	42.2
*1994	100.0	0.4	4.7	11.9	13.5	27.2	42.2
*1995	100.0	0.3	4.8	11.0	14.0	26.0	43.8
*1996	100.0	0.4	5.0	11.7	13.4	27.8	41.7
*1997	100.0	0.3	4.8	11.1	13.0	27.1	43.6
*1998	100.0	0.7	5.6	11.9	12.3	26.2	43.3
*1999	100.0	0.7	5.8	11.8	11.8	25.7	44.1
*2000	100.0	0.4	5.2	12.0	12.3	25.4	44.7
*2001	100.0	0.3	4.1	12.0	12.1	25.0	46.4
*2002	100.0	0.3	4.2	11.8	11.8	26.2	45.8
**2003	100.0	0.3	3.9	11.4	12.7	25.7	46.1
***2004	100.0	0.3	3.9	11.5	12.6	25.0	46.6
****2005	100.0	0.2	4.1	11.1	13.3	25.2	46.1
* 2006	100.0	0.3	4.0	10.2	12.2	23.9	49.4
* 2007	100.0	0.2	3.7	9.6	12.7	23.7	50.1

**TABLE 3B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.2	5.6	12.4	14.5	28.4	38.0
*1991	100.0	0.9	6.0	13.0	14.6	29.1	36.4
*1992	100.0	0.8	5.9	13.9	14.4	29.2	35.8
*1993	100.0	0.4	5.9	15.4	12.9	27.7	37.7
*1994	100.0	0.5	5.3	13.2	14.8	30.4	35.9
*1995	100.0	0.4	5.0	12.9	14.3	27.3	40.1
*1996	100.0	0.5	6.0	13.1	14.2	28.8	37.4
*1997	100.0	0.3	5.7	13.7	14.0	27.6	38.7
*1998	100.0	1.0	6.4	12.4	12.8	27.6	39.7
*1999	100.0	1.1	5.9	11.7	12.9	27.1	41.4
*2000	100.0	0.7	5.3	12.6	12.1	27.4	41.9
*2001	100.0	0.5	4.7	12.4	11.8	26.2	44.5
*2002	100.0	0.5	4.7	13.1	12.6	26.2	42.9
**2003	100.0	0.4	4.7	12.2	11.2	27.6	43.9
***2004	100.0	0.5	4.6	12.3	11.3	26.6	44.7
****2005	100.0	0.1	2.5	11.9	12.0	26.4	47.2
* 2006	100.0	0.3	4.1	10.3	11.7	24.8	48.8
* 2007	100.0	0.3	3.4	10.1	10.7	24.2	51.3

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 4 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION (PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE and above
*1990	100.0	31.9	45.1	16.0	7.0
*1991	100.0	31.6	44.8	15.6	7.9
*1992	100.0	29.9	44.9	16.5	8.7
*1993	100.0	28.5	45.1	16.9	9.5
*1994	100.0	28.2	45.4	17.5	8.8
*1995	100.0	26.8	44.9	18.0	10.3
*1996	100.0	29.5	43.3	16.9	10.3
*1997	100.0	27.9	44.0	17.6	10.5
*1998	100.0	26.8	45.0	17.2	11.0
*1999	100.0	25.4	45.7	18.0	10.9
*2000	100.0	25.1	46.3	16.7	11.9
*2001	100.0	22.7	46.1	17.7	13.5
*2002	100.0	24.6	45.6	15.8	14.0
**2003	100.0	24.5	46.2	15.9	13.3
***2004	100.0	24.3	44.7	16.8	14.2
**** 2005	100.0	20.6	45.8	18.2	15.4
* 2006	100.0	22.2	46.9	16.7	14.2
* 2007	100.0	21.1	47.8	15.6	15.5

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 4A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE and above
*1990	100.0	29.6	48.3	16.1	5.9
*1991	100.0	28.0	49.0	15.5	7.5
*1992	100.0	27.4	48.2	17.0	7.4
*1993	100.0	25.4	49.8	17.2	7.7
*1994	100.0	25.5	49.6	17.7	7.2
*1995	100.0	25.1	48.2	18.3	8.4
*1996	100.0	27.7	47.1	16.8	8.4
*1997	100.0	26.5	47.2	17.5	8.7
*1998	100.0	25.3	48.5	17.0	9.2
*1999	100.0	24.0	49.4	17.7	9.0
*2000	100.0	24.1	49.6	16.6	9.8
*2001	100.0	21.5	49.3	17.8	11.4
*2002	100.0	23.5	49.1	16.0	11.4
**2003	100.0	23.8	49.2	16.2	10.8
***2004	100.0	22.6	48.3	17.3	11.8
**** 2005	100.0	19.9	49.6	18.0	12.5
* 2006	100.0	21.0	50.4	16.6	12.1
* 2007	100.0	20.1	51.3	15.6	13.0

**TABLE 4B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE and above
*1990	100.0	37.0	38.1	15.6	9.3
*1991	100.0	39.6	35.8	15.9	8.8
*1992	100.0	35.7	37.0	15.5	11.9
*1993	100.0	35.6	34.7	16.3	13.5
*1994	100.0	34.5	35.8	17.2	12.6
*1995	100.0	30.8	37.3	17.5	14.3
*1996	100.0	33.7	34.4	17.1	14.7
*1997	100.0	31.0	37.0	17.6	14.4
*1998	100.0	29.9	38.2	17.7	14.3
*1999	100.0	28.3	38.0	18.7	15.0
*2000	100.0	27.3	39.6	17.1	16.1
*2001	100.0	25.5	39.2	17.3	18.0
*2002	100.0	27.0	38.3	15.3	19.4
**2003	100.0	26.1	39.6	15.5	18.9
***2004	100.0	27.9	36.9	15.8	19.4
**** 2005	100.0	22.1	37.6	18.6	21.7
* 2006	100.0	24.3	40.4	17.0	18.2
* 2007	100.0	23.0	41.1	15.5	20.4

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 5 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS  
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL EMPLOYED	EMPLOYEE			EMPLOYER	OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
		TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE			
*1990	100.0	55.2	21.5	33.7	1.8	29.2	13.8
*1991	100.0	62.4	22.9	39.5	2.2	25.4	10.0
*1992	100.0	60.1	20.0	40.0	1.6	27.1	11.2
*1993	100.0	60.0	17.4	42.8	2.0	27.4	10.4
*1994	100.0	60.7	16.4	44.3	2.3	27.2	9.8
*1995	100.0	59.8	15.6	44.3	2.5	28.3	9.4
*1996	100.0	60.8	15.0	45.8	2.3	26.8	10.0
*1997	100.0	59.4	15.1	44.3	2.3	28.8	9.4
*1998	100.0	55.6	14.5	41.2	1.9	28.9	13.6
*1999	100.0	57.5	14.4	43.1	2.0	28.3	12.2
*2000	100.0	56.3	13.4	42.9	2.3	28.4	13.0
*2001	100.0	58.6	13.9	44.7	2.3	28.5	10.6
*2002	100.0	57.9	13.4	44.5	2.8	28.6	10.7
**2003	100.0	57.9	13.5	44.4	2.6	29.6	9.9
***2004	100.0	59.4	13.0	46.4	2.9	28.3	9.4
**** 2005	100.0	59.3	13.3	46.1	3.1	29.7	7.9
* 2006	100.0	55.6	13.4	42.1	3.1	30.8	10.5
*2007	100.0	56.5	13.8	42.7	2.8	30.4	10.3

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 5A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	TOTAL EMPLOYED	EMPLOYEE			EMPLOYER	OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
		TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE			
*1990	100.0	55.2	19.7	35.5	2.3	34.6	7.9
*1991	100.0	61.5	20.3	41.2	2.9	29.8	5.9
*1992	100.0	58.7	18.4	40.3	2.0	32.2	7.2
*1993	100.0	57.7	15.6	42.0	2.6	33.0	6.7
*1994	100.0	59.3	15.9	43.4	2.9	32.0	5.9
*1995	100.0	58.4	14.6	43.7	3.1	33.5	5.1
*1996	100.0	59.5	14.1	45.4	3.2	31.2	6.1
*1997	100.0	58.3	14.4	43.9	3.0	33.2	5.5
*1998	100.0	55.8	14.1	41.7	2.5	34.8	6.8
*1999	100.0	57.7	13.8	43.9	2.7	33.5	6.2
*2000	100.0	56.6	12.6	44.0	3.1	33.8	6.5
*2001	100.0	57.9	12.9	45.0	3.1	33.4	5.5
*2002	100.0	57.5	12.6	44.8	3.7	34.0	4.8
**2003	100.0	57.4	12.6	44.9	3.4	34.5	4.8
***2004	100.0	58.9	11.9	47.0	3.9	32.7	4.5
**** 2005	100.0	59.9	11.7	48.1	4.1	32.9	3.2
* 2006	100.0	56.0	12.3	43.8	4.4	35.2	4.4
* 2007	100.0	57.2	12.1	45.1	3.9	34.5	4.4

**TABLE 5B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	TOTAL EMPLOYED	EMPLOYEE			EMPLOYER	OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
		TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE			
*1990	100.0	55.1	25.3	29.8	0.6	17.9	26.5
*1991	100.0	64.5	28.6	35.9	0.7	16.0	18.9
*1992	100.0	63.4	24.1	39.4	0.7	14.8	21.0
*1993	100.0	65.6	21.0	44.6	0.7	15.0	18.7
*1994	100.0	64.2	17.7	46.5	0.9	16.1	18.8
*1995	100.0	63.2	17.6	45.5	1.1	16.7	19.1
*1996	100.0	63.9	17.0	46.8	0.5	16.7	18.9
*1997	100.0	61.8	16.7	45.2	0.9	19.0	18.3
*1998	100.0	55.2	15.2	40.1	0.6	17.2	27.0
*1999	100.0	57.2	15.6	41.5	0.6	17.5	24.8
*2000	100.0	55.5	15.0	40.5	0.8	17.2	26.5
*2001	100.0	60.1	15.9	44.1	0.5	18.1	21.3
*2002	100.0	58.8	15.1	43.7	0.8	17.4	23.0
**2003	100.0	59.0	15.7	43.3	0.9	18.8	21.3
***2004	100.0	60.6	15.5	45.1	0.9	18.7	19.8
**** 2005	100.0	58.3	16.6	41.6	0.9	22.7	18.2
* 2006	100.0	54.8	15.6	39.2	0.8	22.7	21.7
* 2007	100.0	55.1	17.1	38.0	0.7	22.5	21.7

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 6 - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision)**

Year	Industry group														
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
*2002	<b>6519415</b>	2247602	1072720	386475	838796	117556	309553	168973	524724	227785	82260	110390	93252	317121	22208
**2003	<b>7012755</b>	2384397	1156682	454810	867131	121627	363393	191390	541070	262440	98107	110827	75858	333477	51548
***2004	<b>7394029</b>	2474725	1307357	474090	910770	120552	417340	175633	535064	273628	103966	122395	68813	323277	86419
****2005	<b>7518007</b>	2306039	1385374	542639	904008	138924	484999	233736	512819	297437	129237	133537	53314	324440	71504
* 2006	<b>7105322</b>	2287268	1363092	526861	954981	129351	430331	221146	400504	276783	109660	123900	80247	179941	21255
* 2007	<b>7041874</b>	2202098	1331368	542489	932094	118516	456804	215217	433013	259489	115943	104601	87381	219692	23168

**Industry group**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)   | 8 Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L)   |
| 2 Manufacturing (D)  | 9 Education (M)  |
| 3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,<br>Electricity,Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)                           | 10 Health and Social work (N)  |
| 4 Wholesale and Retail Trade,Repair of Motor Vehicles,<br>Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11 Other Community,Social and Personal Service Activities<br>Extra Teritorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5 Hotels and Restaurants (H)   | 12 Private Households with Employed Persons ( P)   |
| 6 Transport, Storage and Communication (I)   | 13 Miscellaneous Labour work   |
| 7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,<br>Renting and Business Activities (J,K)                       | 14 Industries not adequately described   |

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability ( based on CV),some of these groups have been combined.

- \* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces
- \*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province
- \*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu,Kilinochchi districts.
- \*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 6A - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision) - Male**

	Total	Industry group							
		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	Other
*2002	<b>4395164</b>	1397423	569761	373516	656505	115203	387301	70813	824642
**2003	<b>4833483</b>	1529117	624791	436404	681185	138146	405572	98074	920194
***2004	<b>5049426</b>	1559301	710910	456049	721800	122372	392949	102645	983400
****2005	<b>5134765</b>	1482610	749993	519197	702048	171330	376877	83551	1049159
* 2006	<b>4610643</b>	1342214	683873	507192	717258	156022	294597	86521	822966
* 2007	<b>4653067</b>	1321995	703080	523470	688653	151782	308080	79092	876915

**Industry group**

1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)

2 Manufacturing (D)

3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,  
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)

4 Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,  
Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G)

7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,  
Renting and Business Activities (J,K)

8 Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)

9 Education (M)

**Other**

Hotels and Restaurants (H)

Transport, Storage and Communication (I)

Health and Social work (N)

Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities

Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q)

Private Households with Employed Persons (P)

Miscellaneous Labour work

Industries not adequately described

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV), some of these groups have been combined.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 6B - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision) - Female**

	Industry group								
	Total	1	2	3	4	7	8	9	Other
*2002	<b>2124250</b>	850179	502959	12959	182291	53770	137423	156972	227697
**2003	<b>2179272</b>	855280	531891	18407	185946	53243	135498	164365	234642
***2004	<b>2344604</b>	915424	596447	18041	188970	53261	142116	170983	259362
****2005	<b>2383241</b>	823429	635382	23442	201959	62405	135942	213886	286796
* 2006	<b>2494679</b>	945054	679218	19669	237723	65125	105908	190262	251720
* 2007	<b>2388807</b>	880103	628288	19019	243441	63435	124933	180397	249190

**Industry group**

1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)

2 Manufacturing (D)

3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,  
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)

4 Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,  
Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G)

7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,  
Renting and Business Activities (J,K)

8 Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)

9 Education (M)

**Other**

Hotels and Restaurants (H)

Transport, Storage and Communication (I)

Health and Social work (N)

Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities

Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q)

Private Households with Employed Persons (P)

Miscellaneous Labour work

Industries not adequately described

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability ( based on CV), some of these groups have been combined.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 6C: Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group - Both sexes**

Major Industry group	Year															
	*1992	*1993	*1994	*1995	*1996	*1997	*1998	*1999	*2000	*2001	*2002	**2003	***2004	****2005	* 2006	* 2007
Total	4924130	5201904	5281279	5357120	5536216	5607868	6049388	6082449	6310247	6235588	6519415	7012755	7394029	7518007	7105322	7041874
Agriculture	2078560	2159187	2084733	1966793	2071764	2031902	2378572	2208066	2274153	2033343	2247602	2384397	2474725	2306039	2287268	2202098
Industry	991492	1024524	1046282	1188271	1217977	1354952	1325735	1330134	1490795	1491408	1459194	1611493	1781447	1928014	1889953	1873857
Services	1854078	2018193	2150265	2202056	2246475	2221014	2345081	2544249	2545299	2710837	2812619	3016866	3137857	3283954	2928101	2965919

**Table 6D: Historical table of employed population by major industry group (percentage) - Both sexes**

Major Industry group	Year															
	*1992	*1993	*1994	*1995	*1996	*1997	*1998	*1999	*2000	*2001	*2002	**2003	***2004	****2005	* 2006	* 2007
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	57.9
Agriculture	42.2	41.5	39.5	36.7	37.4	36.2	39.3	36.3	36.0	32.6	34.5	34.0	33.5	30.7	32.2	31.3
Industry	20.1	19.7	19.8	22.2	22.0	24.2	21.9	21.9	23.6	23.9	22.4	23.0	24.1	25.6	26.6	26.6
Services	37.7	38.8	40.7	41.1	40.6	39.6	38.8	41.8	40.3	43.5	43.1	43.0	42.4	43.7	41.2	42.1

**Agriculture**

1. Agriculture (A)
2. Forestry and Fishery (B)

**Industries**

1. Manufacturing (D)
2. Construction
3. Mining & Quarrying
4. Electricity, Gas and Water supply

**Services**

1. Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods
2. Hotels and Restaurants
3. Transport, Storage and Communication
4. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities
5. Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security
6. Education
7. Health and Social work
8. Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities
9. Private Households with Employed Persons
10. Miscellaneous Labour work
11. Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies
12. Industries not adequately described

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 7 - Currently Employed person by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 88)**

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	<b>6519415</b>	85553	352238	316763	283719	406992	510148	1579024	935477	373588	1608511	67402
**2003	<b>7012755</b>	88043	367654	341634	303828	328796	628729	1634289	1084436	419540	1735336	80470
***2004	<b>7394029</b>	99839	404410	366488	322697	420343	671461	1513636	1124715	460589	1951081	58770
****2005	<b>7518007</b>	120491	471200	403904	300322	515909	574416	1561884	1216224	531439	1760335	61883
* 2006	<b>7105322</b>	128944	376469	362275	276587	526322	513217	1590110	1214163	501561	1576960	38715
* 2007	<b>7041874</b>	123290	366668	381596	283703	494515	508488	1503669	1201598	563927	1574113	40306

**Occupation group**

1 Senior Officials and Managers

2 Professionals

3 Technical and Associate Professionals

4 Clerks

5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises

6 Sales and Service workers

7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers

8 Craft and Related workers

9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers

10 Elementary occupations

0 Unidentified

Note: It is to be noted here that these occupation groups are based on ISCO - 88, but they are not necessarily the **Major Groups** of ISCO - 88 classification

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 7A - Currently Employed person by Occupation group - Male (Based on ISCO 88)**

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	<b>4395164</b>	67276	146656	215548	151511	318172	379695	1024190	596472	335568	1097444	62633
**2003	<b>4833483</b>	71574	161375	236263	167584	260270	464633	1109200	711720	368452	1205366	77047
***2004	<b>4993403</b>	75416	174521	250898	174982	341828	498477	1004912	726641	426469	1319258	
****2005	<b>5134765</b>	87788	187002	266866	159566	406137	418628	1013877	801448	484351	1249168	59935
* 2006	<b>4610643</b>	101399	146344	238819	143606	419443	314226	966263	743733	444703	1055753	36354
* 2007	<b>4653067</b>	91026	147844	258111	138384	379768	318994	925933	779097	504603	1070890	38418

**Table 7B - Currently Employed person by Occupation group - Female (Based on ISCO 88)**

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	<b>2124250</b>	18277	205582	101215	132209	88819	130453	554835	339005	38020	511066	4769
**2003	<b>2179272</b>	16469	206279	105370	136245	68526	164096	525090	372716	51088	529971	3423
***2004	<b>2341857</b>	24423	229889	115590	147715	78515	172984	508724	398074	34120	631823	
****2005	<b>2383241</b>	32702	284198	137038	140756	109772	155788	548007	414776	47088	511167	1949
* 2006	<b>2494679</b>	27544	230126	123456	132981	106879	198990	623847	470430	56858	521207	2360
* 2007	<b>2388807</b>	32265	218824	123485	145319	114747	189494	577736	422502	59324	503223	1888

**Occupation group**

1 Senior Officials and Managers

2 Professionals

3 Technical and Associate Professionals

4 Clerks

5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises

6 Sale and Service workers

7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers

8 Craft and Related workers

9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers

10 Elementary occupations

0 Unidentified



These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Note: It is to be noted here that these occupation groups are based on ISCO - 88, but they are not necessarily the **Major Groups** of ISCO - 88 classification

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 8 - CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY HOURS PER WEEK ACTUALLY WORKED AT THE MAIN JOB AND MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GROUP (PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GROUP	TOTAL	0 *	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & OVER
Total	100.0	6.5	1.5	4.8	9.0	14.5	33.0	30.6
1	100.0	7.9	2.6	8.1	14.2	19.7	30.7	16.7
2	100.0	5.8	1.4	4.3	7.9	11.0	35.1	34.5
3	100.0	10.3	1.4	4.0	9.2	11.5	36.8	26.8
4	100.0	2.5	0.4	3.1	5.7	10.0	27.0	51.3
5	100.0	3.9	1.7	2.9	4.5	7.3	21.6	58.1
6	100.0	5.7	0.5	2.0	4.6	7.6	26.7	52.9
7	100.0	3.8	0.7	1.3	3.2	5.0	49.6	36.4
8	100.0	2.3	0.3	0.7	2.3	7.0	54.3	33.2
9	100.0	15.5	1.7	4.6	9.4	48.5	16.2	4.1
10	100.0	3.2	0.8	1.3	2.8	7.7	49.7	34.4
11	100.0	7.3	3.0	3.1	7.2	10.1	34.3	35.0
12	100.0	3.8	0.8	3.5	3.4	6.9	18.3	63.2
13	100.0	8.8	2.1	5.6	14.8	22.3	35.0	11.5
14	100.0	3.9	0.9		2.4	5.6	59.5	27.7

\* Has a job but not at work during the reference week

.. Negligible

**Industry group**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)  | 8. Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L)   |
| 2. Manufacturing (D)   | 9. Education (M)  |
| 3. Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,<br>Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)                           | 10. Health and Social work (N)  |
| 4. Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,<br>Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11. Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities<br>Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5. Hotels and Restaurants (H)  | 12. Private Households with Employed Persons (P)  |
| 6. Transport, Storage and Communication (I)  | 13. Miscellaneous Labour work   |
| 7. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,<br>Renting and Business Activities (J,K)                        | 14. Industries not adequately described   |

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV), some of these groups have been combined.

**TABLE 9 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40 + YRS
*1990	100.0	20.3	40.3	19.3	13.2	7.1
*1991	100.0	19.3	42.2	16.7	15.8	6.0
*1992	100.0	19.2	40.9	20.4	13.4	6.1
*1993	100.0	20.4	38.5	18.9	15.5	6.8
*1994	100.0	22.4	41.2	15.6	15.5	5.5
*1995	100.0	21.1	38.2	20.1	15.1	5.5
*1996	100.0	24.0	39.3	18.1	14.3	4.3
*1997	100.0	22.5	41.5	19.0	12.7	4.3
*1998	100.0	21.9	40.8	17.6	13.6	6.0
*1999	100.0	23.9	40.5	17.2	12.5	5.9
*2000	100.0	19.5	44.4	18.4	11.9	5.8
*2001	100.0	21.2	45.4	17.8	10.4	5.1
*2002	100.0	19.8	47.1	16.6	11.0	5.5
**2003	100.0	19.9	45.8	17.2	11.6	5.6
***2004	100.0	18.1	45.9	17.4	11.7	6.8
**** 2005	100.0	19.5	44.8	16.4	12.2	7.1
* 2006	100.0	17.5	39.3	21.5	11.9	9.8
* 2007	100.0	15.7	41.2	19.7	13.1	10.4

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 9A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	23.8	41.2	16.1	9.6	9.2
*1991	100.0	23.0	42.6	15.1	11.7	7.7
*1992	100.0	21.8	42.7	18.5	10.0	7.1
*1993	100.0	24.0	39.5	16.0	12.7	8.0
*1994	100.0	24.3	40.8	13.3	13.4	8.6
*1995	100.0	22.3	38.2	19.0	12.9	7.6
*1996	100.0	27.2	39.6	16.9	10.9	5.4
*1997	100.0	25.0	41.5	17.2	11.5	4.8
*1998	100.0	27.7	39.6	16.5	9.5	6.7
*1999	100.0	27.6	40.6	14.3	9.3	8.2
*2000	100.0	24.0	46.4	15.2	9.1	5.3
*2001	100.0	25.4	46.3	15.0	7.1	6.2
*2002	100.0	22.2	49.1	13.5	8.3	6.9
**2003	100.0	22.7	47.6	14.8	8.3	6.6
***2004	100.0	20.8	45.4	15.4	10.1	8.3
**** 2005	100.0	21.8	44.3	15.0	12.5	6.3
* 2006	100.0	21.2	40.1	18.4	8.3	11.9
*2007	100.0	19.9	40.7	16.0	10.2	13.1

**TABLE 9B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	17.0	39.4	22.2	16.6	5.0
*1991	100.0	16.3	42.0	18.0	19.2	4.6
*1992	100.0	16.7	39.1	22.2	16.9	5.3
*1993	100.0	12.8	34.1	23.7	21.8	7.7
*1994	100.0	16.7	37.6	21.4	20.6	3.9
*1995	100.0	19.9	38.3	21.2	17.2	3.4
*1996	100.0	21.0	39.0	19.2	17.4	3.2
*1997	100.0	20.1	41.6	20.7	13.8	3.8
*1998	100.0	17.1	41.8	18.6	17.0	5.4
*1999	100.0	20.2	40.5	20.0	15.6	3.7
*2000	100.0	15.1	42.3	21.5	14.8	6.3
*2001	100.0	16.7	44.5	20.9	14.1	3.8
*2002	100.0	17.5	45.1	19.5	13.7	4.2
**2003	100.0	17.2	44.1	19.4	14.7	4.6
***2004	100.0	15.7	46.4	19.3	13.3	5.3
**** 2005	100.0	17.3	45.3	17.6	11.9	7.8
*2006	100.0	14.4	38.7	24.2	14.9	7.9
*2007	100.0	11.9	41.5	23.0	15.6	8.0

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 10 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION (PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		BELOW GRADE 5	GRADES 5 - 9/ YEARS 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE AND ABOVE
*1990	100.0	8.5	49.7	26.5	15.4
*1991	100.0	9.0	45.7	30.3	15.1
*1992	100.0	9.2	50.5	27.0	13.7
*1993	100.0	8.3	44.9	28.7	18.0
*1994	100.0	8.6	44.9	28.3	18.2
*1995	100.0	5.5	47.1	29.1	18.4
*1996	100.0	7.9	47.1	26.1	19.0
*1997	100.0	5.7	44.7	28.2	21.4
*1998	100.0	5.8	44.2	27.1	22.9
*1999	100.0	4.4	41.9	29.2	24.5
*2000	100.0	3.1	45.6	26.0	25.3
*2001	100.0	3.6	40.7	27.3	28.4
*2002	100.0	4.7	40.7	25.2	29.4
**2003	100.0	4.8	40.2	26.1	28.9
***2004	100.0	5.4	36.6	26.2	31.7
**** 2005	100.0	4.5	37.2	28.6	29.7
* 2006	100.0	4.6	41.9	26.6	26.9
* 2007	100.0	4.4	41.0	22.0	32.6

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 10A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION (PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		BELOW GRADE 5	GRADES 5 - 9/ YEARS 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE AND ABOVE
*1990	100.0	10.6	57.7	23.3	8.4
*1991	100.0	11.2	53.2	25.0	10.5
*1992	100.0	9.9	57.4	25.1	7.9
*1993	100.0	11.4	47.7	28.0	12.9
*1994	100.0	11.4	50.3	27.0	11.3
*1995	100.0	5.3	54.4	29.4	10.9
*1996	100.0	8.7	56.9	23.8	10.6
*1997	100.0	7.0	54.5	25.0	13.5
*1998	100.0	6.7	54.8	24.7	13.9
*1999	100.0	4.8	48.3	29.1	17.8
*2000	100.0	3.9	54.7	26.0	15.4
*2001	100.0	4.4	50.9	25.2	19.5
*2002	100.0	5.6	50.1	24.7	19.6
**2003	100.0	5.5	47.3	27.7	19.5
***2004	100.0	7.0	44.0	27.4	21.6
**** 2005	100.0	5.2	44.9	29.1	20.8
* 2006	100.0	6.2	48.9	26.6	18.3
* 2007	100.0	5.8	49.5	24.5	20.3

**TABLE 10B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION (PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		BELOW GRADE 5	GRADES 5 - 9/ YEARS 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE AND ABOVE
*1990	100.0	6.4	42.2	29.5	21.9
*1991	100.0	7.1	39.6	34.5	18.8
*1992	100.0	8.5	43.6	28.9	19.4
*1993	100.0	5.7	42.5	29.4	22.5
*1994	100.0	6.9	39.6	29.6	24.9
*1995	100.0	5.7	40.0	28.8	25.5
*1996	100.0	7.1	37.6	28.3	27.0
*1997	100.0	4.5	35.3	31.3	28.9
*1998	100.0	5.1	35.4	29.1	30.5
*1999	100.0	4.0	35.5	29.3	31.2
*2000	100.0	2.3	36.3	26.1	35.3
*2001	100.0	2.6	29.7	29.7	38.0
*2002	100.0	3.9	31.4	25.6	39.1
**2003	100.0	4.0	33.5	24.6	37.8
***2004	100.0	3.9	29.7	25.0	41.3
**** 2005	100.0	4.0	29.9	28.1	38.0
* 2006	100.0	3.1	35.9	26.7	34.3
* 2007	100.0	3.2	33.5	19.8	43.4

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 11 - CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY SEX AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT**

Sex	2007			
	Total	Duration		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	447021	142986	93048	210987
%	100.0	32.0	20.8	47.2
Male	209721	76983	44582	88156
%	100.0	36.7	21.3	42.0
Female	237300	66003	48467	122830
%	100.0	27.8	20.4	51.8

**TABLE 12 : LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION, 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER BY DISTRICT - BOTH SEXES**

District	Household population (10 years & over)	Total labour force	labour force partici: rate(%)	Labour force				Not in labour force Number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
Total	15047882	7488896	49.8	7041874	94.0	447021	6.0	7558986
Colombo	1933096	953323	49.3	902652	94.7	50671	5.3	979773
Gampaha	2070229	945500	45.7	901253	95.3	44247	4.7	1124729
Kalutara	1000592	492730	49.2	453422	92.0	39308	8.0	507861
Kandy	1117129	497391	44.5	459634	92.4	37757	7.6	619738
Matale	315050	157144	49.9	151574	96.5	5571	3.5	157906
Nuwara Eliya	538953	310492	57.6	297894	95.9	12598	4.1	228460
Galle	916670	420818	45.9	387831	92.2	32987	7.8	495852
Matara	689646	315340	45.7	286355	90.8	28985	9.2	374306
Hambantota	537709	278150	51.7	253769	91.2	24381	8.8	259559
Kurunegala	1416415	736697	52.0	693238	94.1	43459	5.9	679718
Puttalam	659810	326872	49.5	308986	94.5	17886	5.5	332938
Anuradhapura	667142	387900	58.1	374626	96.6	13275	3.4	279241
Polonnaruwa	327143	162051	49.5	150596	92.9	11455	7.1	165092
Badulla	742064	406262	54.7	385242	94.8	21020	5.2	335802
Moneragala	409293	231716	56.6	222251	95.9	9464	4.1	177578
Ratnapura	979448	516408	52.7	483915	93.7	32494	6.3	463039
Kegalle	727494	350102	48.1	328638	93.9	21465	6.1	377392

**TABLE 12A : LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION, 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER BY DISTRICT - MALE**

District	Household population (10 years & over)	Labour force						Not in labour force Number
		Total labour force	labour force partici: rate(%)	Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
Total	7174676	4862788	67.8	4653067	95.7	209721	4.3	2311888
Colombo	927284	637314	68.7	610572	95.8	26742	4.2	289970
Gampaha	982497	645838	65.7	619321	95.9	26517	4.1	336659
Kalutara	484433	333203	68.8	311770	93.6	21432	6.4	151231
Kandy	527638	337231	63.9	319488	94.7	17743	5.3	190407
Matale	145745	99710	68.4	98132	98.4	*	*	46035
Nuwara Eliya	248709	168689	67.8	165544	98.1	*	*	80020
Galle	434669	277671	63.9	259712	93.5	17959	6.5	156998
Matara	321817	207730	64.5	196005	94.4	11725	5.6	114087
Hambantota	263318	181177	68.8	170927	94.3	10249	5.7	82142
Kurunegala	674916	468376	69.4	450737	96.2	17639	3.8	206540
Puttalam	315294	229418	72.8	222150	96.8	*	*	85876
Anuradhapura	313350	227266	72.5	222194	97.8	*	*	86084
Polonnaruwa	157527	112138	71.2	107277	95.7	*	*	45388
Badulla	348099	235254	67.6	226038	96.1	9216	3.9	112845
Moneragala	198423	142427	71.8	138692	97.4	*	*	55997
Ratnapura	487186	334845	68.7	319863	95.5	14981	4.5	152342
Kegalle	343769	224502	65.3	214644	95.6	9858	4.4	119267

**TABLE 12B : LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION, 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER BY DISTRICT -FEMALE**

District	Household population (10 years & over)	Labour force						Not in labour force Number
		Total; labour force	labour force partici: rate(%)	Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
Total	7873206	2626108	33.4	2388807	91.0	237300	9.0	5247098
Colombo	1005812	316009	31.4	292080	92.4	23929	7.6	689803
Gampaha	1087732	299662	27.5	281932	94.1	17729	5.9	788070
Kalutara	516158	159528	30.9	141652	88.8	17876	11.2	356630
Kandy	589491	160160	27.2	140146	87.5	20014	12.5	429331
Matale	169305	57434	33.9	53441	93.0	*	*	111871
Nuwara Eliya	290244	141804	48.9	132350	93.3	*	*	148441
Galle	482001	143147	29.7	128119	89.5	15028	10.5	338854
Matara	367829	107609	29.3	90350	84.0	17260	16.0	260219
Hambantota	274391	96973	35.3	82842	85.4	14131	14.6	177417
Kurunegala	741499	268321	36.2	242501	90.4	25820	9.6	473178
Puttalam	344516	97454	28.3	86835	89.1	10619	10.9	247062
Anuradhapura	353791	160634	45.4	152431	94.9	8203	5.1	193157
Polonnaruwa	169616	49913	29.4	43319	86.8	*	*	119703
Badulla	393965	171008	43.4	159204	93.1	11804	6.9	222957
Moneragala	210870	89289	42.3	83559	93.6	*	*	121581
Ratnapura	492261	181564	36.9	164052	90.4	17512	9.6	310698
Kegalle	383725	125600	32.7	113994	90.8	11606	9.2	258125

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

**TABLE 13 : EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP BY DISTRICTS - BOTH SEXES**

District	Total		Agriculture		Industry		Services	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Total	7041874	100.0	2202098	31.3	1873857	26.6	2965919	42.1
Colombo	902652	100.0	29881	3.3	278041	30.8	594731	65.9
Gampaha	901253	100.0	55365	6.1	358886	39.8	487002	54.0
Kalutara	453422	100.0	92155	20.3	142754	31.5	218513	48.2
Kandy	459634	100.0	113224	24.6	126328	27.5	220081	47.9
Matale	151574	100.0	61571	40.6	34865	23.0	55137	36.4
Nuwara Eliya	297894	100.0	211088	70.9	27864	9.4	58942	19.8
Galle	387831	100.0	132372	34.1	114676	29.6	140782	36.3
Matara	286355	100.0	103972	36.3	67227	23.5	115157	40.2
Hambantota	253769	100.0	99661	39.3	70073	27.6	84035	33.1
Kurunegala	693238	100.0	226562	32.7	196473	28.3	270203	39.0
Puttalam	308986	100.0	86029	27.8	95170	30.8	127787	41.4
Anuradhapura	374626	100.0	224834	60.0	38850	10.4	110942	29.6
Polonnaruwa	150596	100.0	74055	49.2	29173	19.4	47369	31.5
Badulla	385242	100.0	246105	63.9	43137	11.2	96000	24.9
Moneragala	222251	100.0	134734	60.6	28316	12.7	59201	26.6
Ratnapura	483915	100.0	209721	43.3	125180	25.9	149014	30.8
Kegalle	328638	100.0	100769	30.7	96845	29.5	131024	39.9

**TABLE 13A : EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP BY DISTRICTS - MALE**

District	Total		Agriculture		Industry		Services	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Total	4653067	100.0	1321995	28.4	1226550	26.4	2104522	45.2
Colombo	610572	100.0	18372	3.0	181785	29.8	410415	67.2
Gampaha	619321	100.0	42060	6.8	223917	36.2	353343	57.1
Kalutara	311770	100.0	53779	17.2	101506	32.6	156486	50.2
Kandy	319488	100.0	64125	20.1	89895	28.1	165467	51.8
Matale	98132	100.0	38139	38.9	20871	21.3	39122	39.9
Nuwara Eliya	165544	100.0	105311	63.6	17925	10.8	42308	25.6
Galle	259712	100.0	83486	32.1	77848	30.0	98378	37.9
Matara	196005	100.0	69494	35.5	47827	24.4	78685	40.1
Hambantota	170927	100.0	72229	42.3	42037	24.6	56661	33.1
Kurunegala	450737	100.0	146855	32.6	113821	25.3	190061	42.2
Puttalam	222150	100.0	63363	28.5	63477	28.6	95311	42.9
Anuradhapura	222194	100.0	124968	56.2	21887	9.9	75339	33.9
Polonnaruwa	107277	100.0	56156	52.3	18123	16.9	32998	30.8
Badulla	226038	100.0	124273	55.0	32563	14.4	69202	30.6
Moneragala	138692	100.0	79951	57.6	22861	16.5	35880	25.9
Ratnapura	319863	100.0	120208	37.6	90821	28.4	108834	34.0
Kegalle	214644	100.0	59227	27.6	59386	27.7	96031	44.7

**TABLE 13B : EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP BY DISTRICTS - FEMALE**

District	Total		Agriculture		Industry		Services	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Total	2388807	100.0	880103	36.8	647308	27.1	861397	36.1
Colombo	292080	100.0	11508	3.9	96256	33.0	184315	63.1
Gampaha	281932	100.0	13305	4.7	134969	47.9	133658	47.4
Kalutara	141652	100.0	38376	27.1	41248	29.1	62027	43.8
Kandy	140146	100.0	49099	35.0	36433	26.0	54614	39.0
Matale	53441	100.0	23432	43.8	13994	26.2	16015	30.0
Nuwara Eliya	132350	100.0	105777	79.9	9939	7.5	16634	12.6
Galle	128119	100.0	48886	38.2	36829	28.7	42404	33.1
Matara	90350	100.0	34478	38.2	19399	21.5	36472	40.4
Hambantota	82842	100.0	27432	33.1	28036	33.8	27374	33.0
Kurunegala	242501	100.0	79707	32.9	82653	34.1	80142	33.0
Puttalam	86835	100.0	22666	26.1	31693	36.5	32477	37.4
Anuradhapura	152431	100.0	99867	65.5	16962	11.1	35602	23.4
Polonnaruwa	43319	100.0	17898	41.3	11050	25.5	14371	33.2
Badulla	159204	100.0	121831	76.5	10574	6.6	26799	16.8
Moneragala	83559	100.0	54783	65.6	*	*	23321	27.9
Ratnapura	164052	100.0	89513	54.6	34359	20.9	40179	24.5
Kegalle	113994	100.0	41542	36.4	37458	32.9	34993	30.7

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

**TABLE 14 : CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSON BY OCCUPATION OCCUPATION GROUP (BASED ON ISCO88) BY PROVINCE - BOTH SEXES**

Province	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
Total	7041874	123290	366668	381596	283703	494515	508488	1503669	1201598	563927	1574113	40306
Western	2257327	90072	152264	196606	159086	194795	199641	107094	452241	264276	422954	18297
Central	909101	7161	43666	40824	21637	53194	66730	190261	112556	53159	316809	*
Southern	927955	7337	50382	38879	33818	58669	62209	220340	174595	62195	216186	*
North Western	1002224	*	37539	50594	30125	75463	67409	225585	217534	86947	196678	*
North Central	525222	*	21978	15703	10439	32502	40668	265808	48340	24044	58630	*
Uva	607493	*	22783	15082	9986	26574	33150	294252	50388	28052	124611	*
Sabaragamuwa	812552	*	38057	23907	18612	53317	38682	200330	145944	45254	238245	*

Occupation group	
1 Senior Officials and Managers	7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers
2 Professionals	8 Craft and Related workers
3 Technical and Associate Professionals	9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers
4 Clerks	10 Elementary occupations
5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises	0 Unidentified
6 Sales and Service workers	

Note: It is to be noted here that these occupation groups are based on ISCO - 88, but they are not necessarily the Major Groups of ISCO - 88 classification

**TABLE 15 : CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSON BY INDUSTRY GROUP (BASED ON ISIC THIRD REVISION) BY PROVINCE - BOTH SEXES**

Province	Total	Industry group													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Total	7041874	2202098	1331368	542489	932094	118516	456804	215217	433013	259489	115943	104601	87381	219692	23168
Western	2257327	177401	594597	185084	401064	41562	223901	140298	167431	97569	51985	53219	64857	44809	13551
Central	909101	385884	125276	63781	110268	15552	43855	13678	52173	31352	10460	8804	5772	41707	*
Southern	927955	336005	161900	90076	119650	14477	54862	17554	48301	41136	10863	11151	7160	14196	*
North Western	1002224	312591	219347	72296	123882	16936	54774	19464	61327	28000	16716	16056	*	54816	*
North Central	525222	298889	49717	18306	45348	9492	18351	*	41562	14541	7609	*	*	9618	*
Uva	607493	380839	43656	27797	50020	8441	21010	*	26890	18085	6579	*	*	10685	*
Sabaragamuwa	812552	310489	136876	85149	81862	12056	40052	13096	35329	28806	11732	*	*	43861	*

**Industry group**

1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)

2 Manufacturing (D)

3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,  
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)

4 Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,  
Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G)

5 Hotels and Restaurants (H)

6 Transport, Storage and Communication (I)

7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,  
Renting and Business Activities (J,K)

8 Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)

9 Education (M)

10 Health and Social work (N)

11 Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities  
Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q)

12 Private Households with Employed Persons (P)

13 Miscellaneous Labour work

14 Industries not adequately described

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV), some of these groups have been combined.

**TABLE 16 : CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSON BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY PROVINCE - BOTH SEXES**

Province	Total	Employee		Employer	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker	
		Total	Public				Private
Total	7041874	3976624	968525	3008099	200378	2140139	724733
Western	2257327	1521574	338508	1183067	99109	535649	100995
Central	909101	548825	183278	365547	18092	240136	102048
Southern	927955	518069	123966	394103	21218	301471	87197
North Western	1002224	525855	114960	410895	35576	347298	93495
North Central	525222	171666	68290	103376	*	219274	129187
Uva	607493	236476	58281	178195	*	225708	141948
Sabaragamuwa	812552	454158	81243	372915	17928	270603	69863

**TABLE 16A : CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSON BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY PROVINCE - MALE**

Province	Total	Employee		Employer	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker	
		Total	Public				Private
Total	4653067	2660635	560856	2099779	183510	1603039	205883
Western	1541663	1030097	201952	828145	91519	388380	31668
Central	583164	350071	95837	254233	16513	186807	29773
Southern	626644	355688	72060	283628	18253	229669	23034
North Western	672887	366171	64533	301638	33757	249143	23816
North Central	329471	113440	44898	68542	*	174480	37456
Uva	364730	153437	36593	116845	*	167874	40159
Sabaragamuwa	534507	291731	44983	246748	16114	206686	19976

**TABLE 16B : CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSON BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY PROVINCE -FEMALE**

Province	Total	Employee		Employer	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker	
		Total	Public				Private
Total	2388807	1315989	407668	908320	*	537100	518850
Western	715664	491478	136556	354922	*	147269	69327
Central	325937	198754	87440	111313	*	53329	72275
Southern	301310	162381	51905	110475	*	71801	64163
North Western	329337	159684	50426	109258	*	98155	69678
North Central	195751	58227	23392	34835	*	44794	91731
Uva	242764	83039	21688	61350	*	57834	101790
Sabaragamuwa	278045	162427	36260	126167	*	63917	49887

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

**TABLE 17 : CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY HOURS PER WEEK ACTUALLY WORKED  
AT THE MAIN JOB AND DISTRICT - BOTH SEXES**

District	Total	0*	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & over
Total	7041874	454819	107826	337867	635699	1022422	2325342	2157899
Colombo	902652	42638	*	24160	31581	79931	320062	396997
Gampaha	901253	54316	*	36118	71487	95868	286694	349553
Kalutara	453422	28845	9024	20822	37635	66046	148707	142343
Kandy	459634	28200	*	15848	38687	68410	134314	167443
Matale	151574	17568	8313	12123	11520	21565	40733	39751
Nuwara Eliya	297894	12146	*	*	29825	52850	112360	81528
Galle	387831	19958	*	16088	33507	56274	170646	88151
Matara	286355	21427	6826	21197	28073	60931	91251	56649
Hambantota	253769	23236	*	16058	30871	39443	72739	67540
Kurunegala	693238	61913	19553	37406	74400	98414	221733	179818
Puttalam	308986	22737	*	12897	35393	44415	114996	75831
Anuradhapura	374626	44311	*	24667	45383	66815	96318	90528
Polonnaruwa	150596	10404	*	7832	12469	26142	33212	58615
Badulla	385242	21121	*	24078	38566	61355	141640	91440
Moneragala	222251	7692	*	*	22270	42154	79390	66766
Ratnapura	483915	21581	9897	34407	57520	81149	167652	111708
Kegalle	328638	16725	*	23204	36512	60661	92895	93240

0\* Has a job but not at work during the reference week

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

**TABLE 17A : CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY HOURS PER WEEK ACTUALLY WORKED AT THE MAIN JOB AND DISTRICT - MALE**

District	Total	0*	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & over
Total	4653067	290941	58678	168216	355644	591252	1527509	1660826
Colombo	610572	29210	*	11729	16960	42688	205540	300593
Gampaha	619321	41391	*	18991	42927	58061	197829	256868
Kalutara	311770	18592	*	11903	19397	43955	101525	110582
Kandy	319488	18315	*	9024	26801	41805	85920	133439
Matale	98132	11544	*	*	7518	11286	27945	29696
Nuwara Eliya	165544	5233	*	*	13172	33556	53027	55807
Galle	259712	14023	*	7894	18573	32117	115343	69726
Matara	196005	14273	*	10903	16615	38915	63738	47505
Hambantota	170927	16891	*	8971	16877	22610	50940	52490
Kurunegala	450737	38624	10845	18548	40859	57555	144722	139584
Puttalam	222150	14430	*	*	20279	27795	88329	63635
Anuradhapura	222194	22034	*	9510	23270	35336	59843	68122
Polonnaruwa	107277	8015	*	*	8111	13449	23103	47326
Badulla	226038	12032	*	11064	20063	26368	78621	74316
Moneragala	138692	*	*	*	9195	22723	48976	54280
Ratnapura	319863	13858	5112	16177	33736	45085	117029	88865
Kegalle	214644	*	1874	10942	21291	37948	65079	67993

**TABLE 17B : CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY HOURS PER WEEK ACTUALLY WORKED AT THE MAIN JOB AND DISTRICT - FEMALE**

District	Total	0*	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & over
Total	2388807	163879	49148	169651	280055	431170	797833	497073
Colombo	292080	13428	*	12432	14621	37243	114522	96403
Gampaha	281932	12925	*	17127	28561	37807	88865	92685
Kalutara	141652	10253	*	8919	18238	22091	47182	31761
Kandy	140146	9884	*	*	11886	26605	48394	34003
Matale	53441	6024	*	6459	*	10278	12788	10055
Nuwara Eliya	132350	*	*	*	16653	19293	59333	25720
Galle	128119	*	*	8194	14934	24156	55303	18425
Matara	90350	7154	*	10294	11458	22017	27513	9144
Hambantota	82842	6345	*	7087	13994	16833	21799	15051
Kurunegala	242501	23289	8708	18859	33540	40859	77011	40234
Puttalam	86835	*	*	*	15115	16620	26667	12195
Anuradhapura	152431	22278	*	15157	22113	31478	36475	22406
Polonnaruwa	43319	*	*	*	*	12693	10109	11289
Badulla	159204	9089	*	13014	18503	34988	63019	17125
Moneragala	83559	*	*	2460	13074	19431	30414	12486
Ratnapura	164052	7722	*	18231	23784	36064	50623	22842
Kegalle	113994	*	*	12262	15220	22713	27816	25247

0\* Has a job but not at work during the reference week

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

**TABLE 18 : UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION BY PROVINCE - BOTH SEXES**

Province	Level of education				
	Total	Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE and above
Total	6.0	1.3	5.2	8.2	11.8
Western	5.6	*	5.2	6.2	7.4
Central	5.8	*	5.4	11.0	13.5
Southern	8.5	*	7.2	12.1	17.9
North Western	5.8	*	5.0	9.6	12.2
North Central	4.5	*	3.1	*	17.1
Uva	4.8	*	4.8	*	17.9
Sabaragamuwa	6.2	*	4.3	10.7	16.7

**TABLE 18A : UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION BY PROVINCE - MALE**

Province	Level of education				
	Total	Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE and above
Total	4.3	1.3	4.2	6.6	6.6
Western	4.6	*	4.8	5.6	4.6
Central	3.7	*	4.2	*	*
Southern	6.0	*	5.6	10.6	10.0
North Western	3.6	*	3.1	7.2	*
North Central	2.9	*	*	*	*
Uva	3.4	*	3.9	*	*
Sabaragamuwa	4.4	*	3.6	*	*

**TABLE 18B : UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION BY PROVINCE - FEMALE**

Province	Level of education				
	Total	Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE and above
Total	9.0	1.4	7.5	11.3	17.5
Western	7.7	*	6.6	7.5	11.0
Central	9.3	*	8.3	*	22.2
Southern	13.3	*	11.3	14.9	25.0
North Western	10.0	*	9.2	13.5	16.6
North Central	7.0	*	*	*	24.3
Uva	6.7	*	*	*	*
Sabaragamuwa	9.5	*	6.0	*	23.3

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

**TABLE 19 : UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE GROUP BY PROVINCE - BOTH SEXES**

Province	Total	Age group			
		15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 & over
Total	6.0	21.6	21.1	9.4	2.0
Western	5.6	24.0	17.5	7.0	2.4
Central	5.8	18.3	19.6	10.4	1.7
Southern	8.5	29.9	31.1	15.4	2.6
North Western	5.8	17.9	21.3	10.1	1.8
North Central	4.5	*	19.9	*	*
Uva	4.8	*	19.7	*	*
Sabaragamuwa	6.2	27.8	22.6	10.4	1.8

**TABLE 19A : UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE GROUP BY PROVINCE - MALE**

Province	Total	Age group			
		15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 & over
Total	4.3	19.6	16.1	5.4	1.4
Western	4.6	23.7	16.3	4.8	2.0
Central	3.7	*	11.2	*	*
Southern	6.0	27.3	24.9	7.8	1.7
North Western	3.6	*	15.6	*	*
North Central	2.9	*	*	*	*
Uva	3.4	*	*	*	*
Sabaragamuwa	4.4	*	15.7	*	*

**TABLE 19B : UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE GROUP BY PROVINCE -FEMALE**

Province	Total	Age group			
		15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 & over
Total	9.0	25.6	28.9	17.5	3.0
Western	7.7	24.4	19.2	11.7	3.2
Central	9.3	*	31.1	22.3	*
Southern	13.3	*	41.4	29.8	4.4
North Western	10.0	*	31.5	21.3	3.4
North Central	7.1	*	30.1	*	*
Uva	6.8	*	31.0	*	*
Sabaragamuwa	9.5	*	34.5	*	3.2

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

## Explanatory Notes

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### Coverage

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey was designed to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka. This survey is being conducted quarterly, since the first quarter of 1990.

This quarterly survey of households is conducted through a scientifically selected sample designed to represent the civilian non-institutional population. Respondents are interviewed to obtain information about the employment status etc. of each member of the household 10 years of age and older.

The field work of the survey is done during the third week of the each month, Monday through Sunday. This is known as the "survey week". The inquiry relates to activity or status are referred in the preceding week of the survey week; referred to as the "reference week".

The concepts and definitions underlying labour force data are as follows.

### Concepts and definitions

1. **Labour force** : The labour force is composed of the economically active population 10 years of age and over.
2. **The Economically Active Population** : is defined as those persons who are/were employed or unemployed during the reference period of the survey.
3. **Employed** : Persons, who during the reference period, worked as paid employees, employers, own account workers (self employed), or unpaid family workers are said to be employed. This includes persons with a job but not at work during the reference period.
4. **Unemployed** : Persons who are seeking and available for work, but had no employment during the reference period.
5. **Currently Economically Active** : A person who was employed or unemployed during the current reference period is considered to be currently economically active.
6. **Not in the Labour Force (not economically active)** : Persons who were neither working not available/looking for work are classified as "not in the labour force". Persons are not in the labour force for such reasons as: full time care of the household, full - time students, retired or old age, infirmed or disabled, or are not interested in working for one reason or another. Current and Usual definitions apply.

## 7. *Criteria for classification of underemployment*

In order to classify an employed persons as visibly underemployed,

### *(i) If the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her main activity*

In Sri Lanka scenario, 35 hours per week is taken as the cut-off point applicable to all workers, except government teachers. As in practice, though teachers do have a normal duration of work which is below the general cut-off point, they should be on a full time schedule according to the nature of their job. Further, those who do have a secondary job, or those who are employers, were considered as having worked the normal duration in their respective activity.

Therefore, if the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her activity (as described above), then the person is further questioned to ascertain whether he/She is prepared and available for further work if provided. Such persons are considered underemployed in their respective employment.

### *(ii) If the person has worked more than the normal duration in his/her activity*

If the person has worked even more than 35 hours as usually, but he has worked less than 35 hours actually in the reference period, only due to the off season or bad weather, such persons were also further questioned to check their underemployment situation, considering them as a special category.

## 8. *Informal Sector Employment*

In order to classify a person to be employed in informal sector employment, following information were used.

- (i) Registration of the organization
- (ii) Accounts keeping practices of the organization
- (iii) Total number of regular employees of the organization.

## **Reliability of the estimates**

Statistics based on the quarterly labour force data are subject to both sampling and non - sampling errors. When a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent.

The exact differences, or sampling error, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 95 percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.96 standard errors from the " true" population value, because of sampling error. Analyses relating to the Labour Force Survey are generally conducted at the 95 percent level of confidence.

For example, the confidence interval for the quarterly unemployment rate is on the order of ,

Estimated value *(of the unemployment rate)*  $\pm$  (standard error) \* ( 1.96)

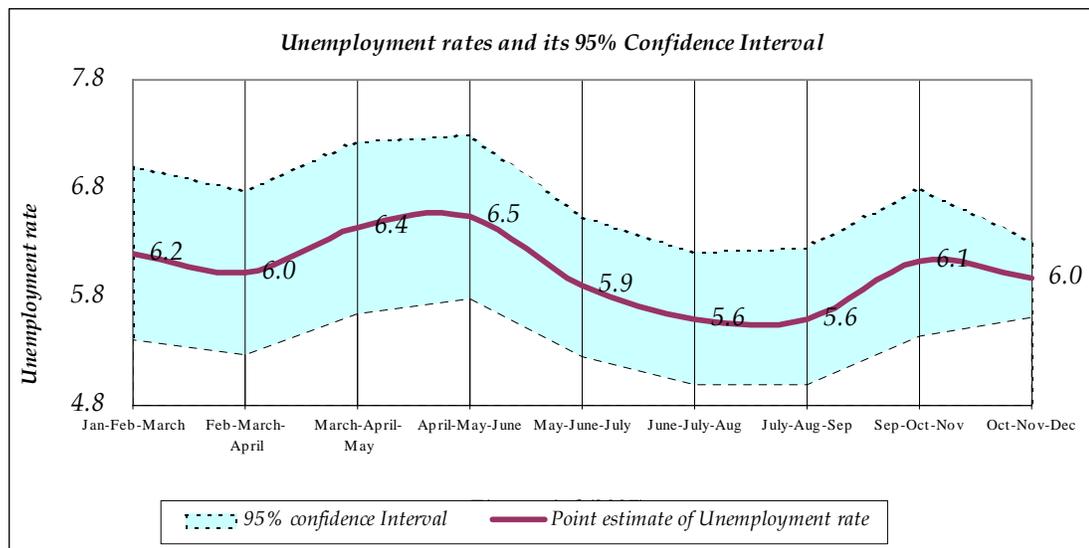
6.4  $\pm$  (0.4) \* (1.96)

(6.4  $\pm$  0.784)

This means, the 95 percent confidence interval on the quarterly unemployment rate could range from (5.6 to 7.2) . This implies that there is about 95 percent chance that the "true" unemployment rate lies within this interval. This range includes all the values range from 5.6 to 7.2 . When the comparison of this estimate is done between two quarters, if any of the value within the 95 percent confidence interval of one quarter overlaps with the confidence interval of the other , it means that the estimates of this two quarters *are not significantly different*.

Therefore, in each quarterly labour force report, a separate table is given including approximate standard errors for some selected variables, so that users could understand this statistical scenario clearly.

### Unemployment rates and it's lower and upper limits 2007 (Jan-Dec)



As shown in the given figure, it is very clear that, there is no statistical significant differences between the quarterly unemployment rates reported in 2006, (since all the 95 percent confidence intervals overlap) when sampling error is considered.

### Change in survey schedule

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes have been made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data.

Beginning in January 2006, some improvements were made to the labour force survey schedule in order to fulfill the requirements of it's users and also to provide additional information for the planning purposes. This revision was made focusing on literacy, household economic activities, and informal sector employment and under employment etc.

**Note :**

It is important to note that, all the data published here are the estimates based on a sample survey and these are subject to sampling errors. These sampling errors can be statistically evaluated from the survey results. Therefore, sampling error is normally measured in terms of the standard error of the particular variable. Standard error could be used to calculate the confidence limits with a prescribed accuracy where the true value of the estimates lies.

Further reliability of the estimates can be expressed in terms of Coefficient of Variation (CV). The CV is a relative measure of the sampling error and is calculated as sampling error divided by the expected value of the given characteristic.

In view of this, following table is given to show the estimates for some selected variables, it's standard error, CV and 95% Confidence interval.

It is also important to note that all the estimates we publish in this report are subject to sampling error and one should be cautious in the interpretation of results, especially with respect to the trends over time.

**Estimate of Confidence Intervals for some selected characteristics**

Year	Labour Force					Employed				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2003 *	7653717	83576	1.09	7489909	7817525	7012756	77834	1.11	6860202	7165310
2004 **	8061354	79707	0.99	7905128	8217579	7394029	74648	1.01	7247719	7540340
2005***	8141347	233233	2.86	7684210	8598485	7518007	219889	2.92	7087025	7948988
2006#	7598762	65349	0.86	7470593	7726931	7105322	63609	0.90	6980566	7230078
2007#	7488896	58056	0.78	7375030	7602761	7041874	56401	0.80	6931254	7152495

Year	Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		Rate	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2003 *	640961	20755	3.24	600281	681641	8.4	0.2	2.99	7.9	8.9
2004 **	667324	18385	2.76	631290	703358	8.3	0.2	2.55	7.9	8.7
2005***	623341	39397	6.32	546123	700558	7.7	0.4	5.76	6.8	8.5
2006#	493440	15000	3.04	464020	522859	6.5	0.2	2.96	6.1	6.9
2007#	447021	13838	3.10	419880	474162	6.0	0.2	3.01	5.6	6.3

\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu and Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*- All the districts are included

# - Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

## STANDARD ERROR AND COEFFICIENT OF VARIATION OF SELECTED VARIABLES

	(2007)					
	Estimated Value	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)	Estimated Value (Ratio)	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)
<b>General labour force characteristics</b>						
Population ( 10 years & over)	15047882	90204	0.6	-	-	-
Employed Population	7041874	56401	0.8	-	-	-
Unemployed Population	447021	13838	3.1	-	-	-
Employment Rate	-	-	-	94.0	0.180	0.191
Unemployment Rate	-	-	-	6.0	0.180	3.008
Labour Force	7488896	58056	0.8	-	-	-
Not in Labour Force	7558986	62953	0.8	-	-	-
<b>Employed persons by major industry Groups</b>						
1	2202098	48978	2.224	-	-	-
2	1331368	29465	2.213	-	-	-
3	542489	16765	3.090	-	-	-
4	932094	22191	2.381	-	-	-
5	118516	7435	6.273	-	-	-
6	456804	12332	2.700	-	-	-
7	215217	10041	4.666	-	-	-
8	433013	13465	3.110	-	-	-
9	259489	10594	4.083	-	-	-
10	115943	6438	5.553	-	-	-
11	104601	5811	5.556	-	-	-
12	87381	8583	9.823	-	-	-
13	219692	11075	5.041	-	-	-
14	10881831	84834	0.780	-	-	-
<b>Unemployed persons by level of education</b>						
Below grade 5	19694	2439	12.382	-	-	-
Grade 5 - 9/Year 6 - 10	183262	8551	4.666	-	-	-
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	98465	5903	5.995	-	-	-
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	145600	7210	4.952	-	-	-

**Industry group**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)   | 8. Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L)   |
| 2. Manufacturing (D)  | 9. Education (M)  |
| 3. Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,<br>Electricity,Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)                           | 10. Health and Social work (N)  |
| 4. Wholesale and Retail Trade,Repair of Motor Vehicles,<br>Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11. Other Community,Social and Personal Service Activities<br>Extra Teritorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5. Hotels and Restaurants (H)   | 12. Private Households with Employed Persons ( P)   |
| 6. Transport, Storage and Communication (I)   | 13. Miscellaneous Labour work   |
| 7. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,<br>Renting and Business Activities (J,K)                       | 14. Industries not adequately described   |

## Alternative Estimates of Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics

◆ Official employment, unemployment and labour force characteristics are estimated at the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey, based on the internationally comparable concepts and definitions recommended by the ILO. However the validity of the concepts and definitions used at the survey is questioned very often in some forums, for the appropriateness of these concepts and definitions in the Sri Lankan context.

The concepts and definitions, which were found to be controversial are as below.

### (1) Number of Hours of Work :

A person who work **at least one hour** during the reference week, is considered **employed**, under these definitions.

### (2) Working Age Population :

All persons of **age 10 years and over** are considered to be in the working age.

### (3) Employment Status :

All, a) Paid employees, (those who work for wages/salaries).

b) Employers (who have at least one paid employee under them).

c) Own account workers (who carry out the economic activity without having any paid employees).

d) Unpaid family workers (who make their contribution to the economic activities carried out by their own household, without wages/salaries).

The validity of the above concepts and definitions is raised due to the following reasons.

(1) **Number of hours of Work** : Some point out that **one hour per week** is too low, to consider a person to be employed.

(2) **Working age Population** : Some point out that persons in the age group 10-14 yrs. are too young to consider to be in the working age.

(3) **Employment Status** : Some point out that 'unpaid family workers' may work in the family enterprise **without payment** because they have no other work, and so it is not appropriate to consider them as **employed**.

An attempt has been made to produce '**Alternative estimates of Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics**,' by revising the original concepts and definitions so that the above issues are addressed as explained below.

The revisions made are,

### (1) Number of Hours of Work :

Persons who work **20 hours or more per week only** are considered to be employed.

### (2) Working Age Population :

Persons who are **over 15 yrs of age only** are considered to be in the working age.

### (3) Unpaid Family Worker :

Unpaid family workers are **not** considered as employed. Those unpaid family workers who were reported to be seeking some other work are considered as **unemployed** and the rest of the unpaid family workers are considered as **economically inactive** (not in the labour force) so only, **a) paid employees b) employers and c) own account workers are considered to be employed**.

Following tables are based on the above alternative concepts and definitions.

TABLE 1 - LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 15 YEARS &amp; OVER (ALTERNATIVE ESTIMATES)

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (15 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1998	11281913	5567813	49.4	4870332	87.5	697481	12.5	5714099
*1999	11582873	5632621	48.6	4974104	88.3	658517	11.7	5950382
*2000	11978962	5738351	47.9	5124615	89.3	613736	10.7	6241526
*2001	12258565	5893030	48.1	5292093	89.8	600937	10.2	6365944
*2002	12612657	6162963	48.9	5482779	89.0	680184	11.0	6450265
**2003	13839853	6547396	47.3	5849585	89.3	697811	10.7	7292837
***2004	14670217	7051951	48.1	6327524	89.7	724427	10.3	7618797
****2005	13630354	6565951	48.2	5964493	90.8	601458	9.2	7064403
*2006	13261409	6467138	48.8	5975069	92.4	492069	7.6	6794271
*2007	13459252	6425260	47.7	5979061	93.1	446199	6.9	7033992

TABLE 2 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF NUMBER AND RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT BY AGE (ALTERNATIVE ESTIMATES)

YEAR	AGE GROUP											
	TOTAL		15 - 19		20 - 24		25 - 29		30 - 39		40 & ABOVE	
	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE
*1999	658517	11.7	158129	41.3	269327	31.9	113285	15.4	81121	5.7	36655	1.6
*2000	613736	10.7	126288	36.5	266306	30.7	117768	15.7	71019	4.9	32354	1.4
*2001	601026	10.2	130397	40.2	271672	30.5	105295	14.0	63668	4.4	29905	1.2
*2002	680184	11.0	136693	41.1	317071	32.7	113919.98	14.5	75086	4.9	37414	1.5
**2003	697811	10.7	141608.9	40.4	314693	32.2	121632	14.5	80467	4.8	39410	1.5
***2004	724427	10.3	134848	38.0	332229	31.2	122725	13.4	84461	4.8	50165	1.7
****2005	601458	9.2	122670	39.7	268331	28.4	99649	11.3	70764	4.4	40044	1.4
*2006	492069	7.6	86180	29.7	193481	24.0	105966	12.5	58443	3.8	47999	1.6
*2007	446199	6.9	69856	27.7	183617	24.0	87993	10.7	58252	3.8	46480	1.5

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 3 - Currently Employed persons by Industry group (No. and percentage) (Based on ISIC Third Revision) -**  
(Alternative estimates)

Year	Industry group														
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>*2002</b>															
No.	<b>5487325</b>	1559133	983601	264384	723210	104151	292951	164062	518764	211281	80915	96911	91085	283032	113845
%	<b>100.0</b>	28.4	17.9	4.8	13.2	1.9	5.3	3.0	9.5	3.9	1.5	1.8	1.7	5.2	2.1
<b>**2003</b>															
No.	<b>5860182</b>	1682994	1038390	343650	744153	104923	344294	176993	510486	233874	91213	94491	74181	293951	126590
%	<b>100.0</b>	28.7	17.7	5.9	12.7	1.8	5.9	3.0	8.7	4.0	1.6	1.6	1.3	5.0	2.2
<b>***2004</b>															
No.	<b>6337164</b>	1792810	1191379	439936	794793	108521	402536	170027	526501	257965	102328	108076	65639	293621	83032
%	<b>100.0</b>	28.3	18.8	6.9	12.5	1.7	6.4	2.7	8.3	4.1	1.6	1.7	1.0	4.6	1.3
<b>****2005</b>															
No.	<b>5971029</b>	1573306	1147255	476851	739850	108424	422920	204139	465608	245956	118065	105175	47645	253367	62468
%	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26.3</b>	19.2	8.0	12.4	1.8	7.1	3.4	7.8	4.1	2.0	1.8	0.8	4.2	1.0
<b>*2006</b>															
No.	<b>5978575</b>	1570682	1221566	492116	822922	111890	416188	214276	397926	254378	105956	110924	78341	160429	20981
%	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26.3</b>	20.4	8.2	13.8	1.9	7.0	3.6	6.7	4.3	1.8	1.9	1.3	2.7	0.4
<b>*2007</b>															
No.	<b>5979061</b>	1543596	1182348	507060	807657	100638	441290	209288	428978	242713	112778	94647	82955	202406	22706
%	<b>100.0</b>	25.8	19.8	8.5	13.5	1.7	7.4	3.5	7.2	4.1	1.9	1.6	1.4	3.4	0.4

**Industry group**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)  | 8 Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)  |
| 2 Manufacturing (D)   | 9 Education (M)  |
| 3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,<br>Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)                           | 10 Health and Social work (N)  |
| 4 Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,<br>Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11 Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities<br>Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5 Hotels and Restaurants (H)  | 12 Private Households with Employed Persons (P)  |
| 6 Transport, Storage and Communication (I)  | 13 Miscellaneous Labour work   |
| 7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,<br>Renting and Business Activities (J,K)                        | 14 Industries not adequately described   |

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV), some of these groups have been combined.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included